

# NC COURSE OF STUDY GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

## Four Courses of Study, One Diploma...

Multiple graduation courses of study were approved by the State Board of Education at its August, 1999 meeting. They were implemented with first time ninth graders in 2000-01. The three courses of study are-- Career Preparation, College Technical Preparation, and College/University Preparation. In addition, a fourth course of study called the Occupational Course of Study for certain students with disabilities who have an Individualize Education Plan was implemented with entering ninth graders in 2000-01. Students who do not complete the graduation requirements for the above courses of study may be eligible for the following exit documents:

- Certificate of Achievement: Students who satisfy all state and local graduation requirements but who fail the competency tests will receive a certificate of achievement and transcript shall be allowed by the LEA to participate in graduation exercises.
- Graduation Certificate: Effective with the class entering ninth grade for the 1992-93 school year, special needs students as defined by G.S. 115C-109, excluding academically gifted or pregnant students, who do not meet the requirements for a high school diploma will receive a graduation certificate and shall be allowed to participate in graduation exercises if they meet the following criteria:
  - Successful completion of 20 course units by general subject area (4 English, 3 math, 3 science, 3 social studies, 1 health and physical education, and 6 local electives) under paragraph (b). These students are not required to pass the specifically designated courses such as Algebra I, Biology, or United State History.
  - Completion of all IEP requirements.

Effective with the class entering ninth grade for the first time in the 2006-2007 school year, students who are following the career preparation, college technical preparation, or college/university preparation courses of study shall meet the following exit standards:

- successfully complete a graduation project that is developed, monitored, and scored within the LEA (school district) using state-adopted rubrics; and
- score at proficiency level III or above on the end-of-course assessment for English I, U.S. History, Biology, Civics and Economics, and Algebra I.
  - A student who does not score at proficiency level III or above on the end-of-course assessment for any of these courses but who passes the course shall be offered the opportunity to retake the assessment no later than three weeks from the receipt of assessment results.
  - If the student does not score at or above proficiency level III on the retest, school officials shall apply a review process to provide focused intervention, a second retest opportunity, and a review of the student's documentation to determine whether the student has met the exit standard for the course. The principal shall make the final decision as to whether the student has met the exit standard.

Below is a chart outlining the course requirements for each course of study.

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<b>Content Area</b>	<b>CAREER PREP</b> Course of Study Requirements	<b>COLLEGE TECH PREP**</b> Course of Study Requirements	<b>COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY PREP*</b> Course of Study (UNC 4-yr college) Requirements	<b>OCCUPATIONAL</b> Course of Study Requirements (Selected IEP students/ excluded from EOC Proficiency level requirements)
<b>English</b>	<b>4 Credits</b> I, II, III, IV	<b>4 Credits</b> I, II, III, IV	<b>4 Credits</b> I, II, III, IV	<b>4 Credits</b> Occupational English I, II, III, IV
<b>Mathematics</b>	<b>3 Credits</b> Including Algebra I (This requirement can be met with Integrated Math I & II when accompanied with the Algebra I EOC)	<b>3 Credits**</b> Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, OR Algebra I, Technical Math I&II, OR Integrated Mathematics I,II,&III	<b>4 Credits</b> (4 <sup>th</sup> credit effective for first time ninth graders in 2002-2003)* Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, and higher level math course with Algebra II as prerequisite OR Integrated Mathematics I,II,III, and a credit beyond Integrated Mathematics III	<b>3 Credits</b> Occupational mathematics I, II, III
<b>Science</b>	<b>3 Credits</b> A physical science course, Biology, Earth/Environmental Science	<b>3 Credits</b> A physical science course, Biology, Earth/Environmental Science	<b>3 Credits</b> A physical science course, Biology, Earth/Environmental Science	<b>2 Credits</b> Life Skills Science I, II
<b>Social Studies</b>	<b>3 Credits</b> Civics & Economics, US History, World History*****	<b>3 Credits</b> Civics & Economics, US History, World History*****	<b>3 Credits</b> Civics & Economics, US History, World History***** (2 courses to meet UNC minimum admission requirements- US History & 1elective)	<b>2 Credits</b> Social Studies I (Government/US History) Social Studies II (Self- Advocacy/Problem Solving)
<b>Second Language</b>	Not required	Not required**	<b>2 Credits</b> in the same language	Not required
<b>Computer Skills</b>	No specific course required, students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing (starting with graduating class of 2001)	No specific course required, students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing (starting with graduating class of 2001)	No specific course required, students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing (starting with graduating class of 2001)	Computer proficiency as specified in IEP
<b>Health and Physical Education</b>	<b>1 Credit</b> Health/Physical Education	<b>1 Credit</b> Health/Physical Education	<b>1 Credit</b> Health/Physical Education	<b>1 Credit</b> Health/Physical Education
<b>Career/Technical</b>	<b>4 Credits in Career/Technical</b> Select courses appropriate for career pathway to include a second level (advanced) course; <b>OR</b>	<b>4 Credits</b> Select courses appropriate for career pathway to include a second level (advanced) course	Not required	<b>4 Credits</b> Career/Technical Education electives
<b>JROTC</b>	<b>4 Credits in JROTC; OR</b>			
<b>Arts Education</b> (Dance, Music, Theatre Arts, Visual Arts)	<b>4 Credits in an Arts Discipline</b> Select courses appropriate for an arts education pathway to include an advanced course;  Recommend at least one credit in an arts discipline and/or requirement by local decision (for students not taking an arts education pathway);	Recommend at least one credit in an arts discipline and/or requirement by local decision	Recommend at least one credit in an arts discipline and/or requirement by local decision	Recommend at least one credit in an arts discipline and/or requirement by local decision
<b>Electives or other requirements****</b>	<b>2 Elective Credits</b> and other credits designated by LEA	<b>2 Elective Credits</b> and other credits designated by LEA	<b>3 Elective Credits</b> and other credits designated by LEA	<b>Occupational Preparation: 6 Credits:</b> Occupational Preparation I, II, III, IV**** Elective credits/completion of IEP objectives/Career Portfolio-required
<b>Total</b>	<b>20 Credits</b> plus any local requirements	<b>20 Credits</b> plus any local requirements	<b>20 Credits</b> plus any local requirements	<b>22 Credits</b> Plus any local requirements

\*The fourth mathematics credit in college/university prep became effective for entering ninth graders of 2002-03.

\*\*A student pursuing a College Tech Prep course of study may meet the requirements of a College/University course of study by completing 2 credits in the same second language and one additional unit in mathematics.

\*\*\*Completion of 300 hours of school-based training, 240 hours of community-based training, and 360 hours of paid employment.

\*\*\*\*\*Effective with ninth graders of 2003-2004, World History must be taken to meet the requirements of World Studies.