Subject Requirement ("A-G" Coursework)

Complete the 15 college-preparatory courses listed below. These courses are also known as the "a-g" subjects. At least 11 of the 15 required courses must be completed prior to the senior year.

California High School Students

The courses you take to fulfill the Subject Requirement must be certified by the University of California as meeting the requirement and must be included on your school's UC-certified course list.

REQUIRED "A-G" COURSES	
a) History/Social Science 2 YEARS REQUIRED	Two years of history/social science, including one year of world history, cultures and geography; and one year of U.S. history or one half-year of U.S. history and one half-year of civics or American government.
b) English 4 YEARS REQUIRED	Four years of college-preparatory English that include frequent and regular writing and reading of classic and modern literature. No more than one year of ESL-type courses can be used to meet this requirement.
c) Mathematics 3 YEARS REQUIRED, 4 YEARS RECOMMENDED	Three years of college-preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry. Geometry must be completed by all applicants. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part or the entire requirement, as may math courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades that your high school accepts as equivalent to its own math courses.
d) Laboratory Science 2 YEARS REQUIRED, 3 YEARS RECOMMENDED	Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of these three foundational subjects: biology, chemistry and physics. Advanced laboratory science classes that have biology, chemistry, or physics as prerequisites and offer substantial additional material may be used to fulfill this requirement, as can the final two years of an approved three-year integrated science program that provides rigorous coverage of at least two of the three foundational subjects.
e) Language Other Than English 2 YEARS REQUIRED, 3 YEARS RECOMMENDED	Two years of the same language other than English. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, composition and culture. Courses in languages other than English taken in the seventh and eighth grades may be used to fulfill part of this requirement if your high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.
f) Visual and Performing Arts (V P A) 1 YEAR REQUIRED	A single yearlong approved arts course from a single V P A discipline: dance, drama/theater, music, or visual art.
g) College-Preparatory Electives 1 YEAR REQUIRED	One year (two semesters), in addition to those required in "a-f" above, chosen from the following areas: visual and performing arts (non-introductory-level courses), history, social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science and language other than English (a third year in the language used for the "e" requirement or two years of another language).

Grade Point Average

The minimum GPA is 3.0 for California applicants and 3.4 for nonresident applicants. Calculate your GPA by assigning point values to the grades you earn in the 10th and 11th grades, totaling the points and dividing the total by the number of "a-g" courses. The university assigns grade points as follows: A=4 points, B=3 points, C=2 points, D=1 point and F=0 points (pluses and minuses are not included).

Only the grades you earn in "a-g" courses in the 10th and 11th grades - including summer sessions - are used to calculate your preliminary GPA. Courses you took in 9th grade can be used to meet the Subject Requirement if you earned a grade of C or better, but they will not be included in your GPA for determining eligibility. Honors Courses: UC assigns extra points for up to eight semesters of university-certified honors-level, Advanced Placement (AP) courses and some International Baccalaureate (IB) courses taken in the last three years of high school: A=5 points, B=4 points, C=3 points. No more than two yearlong UC-approved honors-level courses taken in the 10th grade may be given extra points. A grade of D or F in an honors course does not earn an extra point. The courses must be certified as honors courses by the university and must be in the following "a-g" subjects: history/social science, English, advanced mathematics, laboratory science, language other than English and visual and performing arts. In these subjects, as well as in computer science, acceptable honors-level courses include Advanced Placement courses, designated International Baccalaureate courses and college courses that are transferable to the University of California. Acceptable honors courses are listed on your school's UC-certified course list.

D and F Grades: If you have earned a D or F in an "a-g" course, you must repeat the course with a grade of C or better. The original D or F grade will not be included in the GPA calculation, and the new grade will be used. If you repeat a course in which you initially earned a grade of C or better, the second grade will not be used.



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- See more at:

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