

# **FRESHMAN ORIENTATION**

**JANUARY 13, 2010**

### **HIGH SCHOOL CREDITS:**

When a student becomes a Freshman, everything starts to “count”. This means that a student earns a credit for each class that receives a passing grade (D or higher for semester grade). Depending on which type of diploma he/she is trying to earn there is a specific number of credits attached to that diploma. They are: Core 40 requires 45 credits; Core 40 with Technical Honors requires 47 credits; Core 40 with Academic Honors requires 47; and the General Diploma (available only by going through the “Opt-out” process) requires 45 credits.

One credit is awarded for a passing semester grade in any high school level course with the following exceptions: all vocational classes offered through the Northern Indiana Vocational Cooperative. These classes are offered at Plymouth, Knox, and John Glenn. The student can earn anywhere from 2 to 4 credits each semester (depending on the length of meeting for the course in which he/she is enrolled). In addition to meeting a fatal number of credits, a student must also take specific courses to graduate. These are called “requirements”. Requirements are specific subjects and courses that the student must successfully complete in order to graduate.

### **GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)**

The student’s semester grades are used to determine a student’s GPA, which is their grade point average. GPA is simply the average of a student’s semester grades, starting with the Freshman year. Oregon-Davis High School uses a 4.0 scale where an A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0. If at the end of the eleventh grade, a student has all A’s, the student will have a 4.0. If he/she has earned A’s; in half of his/her courses and B’s in the other half, he/she will have a 3.5 GPA. Since college applications are generally completed during the fall of the senior year, the GPA at the end of the junior year is very important. All courses, grades, and credits are recorded on the student’s transcript. The transcript is part of his/her permanent record.

Oregon-Davis does offer “weighted grades” for Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Only AP courses that are offered at Oregon-Davis by an Oregon-Davis teacher will be awarded a weighted grade. AP courses will still be offered through Distance Learning but they will not be weighted. A grade in a weighted course is worth more than a grade in a non-weighted course. Weighting will be accomplished by adding one point to the value of each passing grade. For example: an A=5, B=4, C=3...and so on.

### **CREDIT CLASSIFICATION FOR CLASS STANDING**

Students in high school must earn credits in order to move up through grade levels. The following chart shows the number of credits necessary at each grade level. In order to earn a credit in a class, a student must pass that class with a “D” or better.

0-12 Freshman      13-24 Sophomore      25-36 Junior      37+ Senior

### **GRADUATION QUALIFYING EXAM REQUIREMENT:**

In addition to fulfilling graduation credit requirements, students graduating with a diploma must also meet the State of Indiana's Graduation Qualifying Exam (GQE) requirement. This requirement can be met in the following ways:

1. The student achieves **passing scores on the English 10 and Algebra I End of Course Assessments (ECA's)**. These two ECA's are the new Graduation Qualifying Exam (GQE).
2. Evidence-Based Waiver
  - Take the tests at least one time each year that the test is offered
  - Attend all remediation offered
  - Maintain a 95% attendance throughout high school (excused do not count)
  - "C" average in the 34 credits specified course list
  - Satisfy graduation requirements (state and local)
  - Provide a letter of recommendation from the teacher in the subject not passed
  - Signature of principal
3. Work Readiness Waiver
  - Take the tests at least one time each year that the test is offered
  - Attend all remediation offered
  - Maintain a 95% attendance throughout high school (excused do not count)
  - "C" average in the 34 credits specified course list
  - Satisfy graduation requirements (state and local)
  - Complete requirements for the General Diploma readiness assessment and at least one career exploration internship; co-op education or a workforce credential recommended by your school
  - Signature of principal

Students who meet all credit requirements, but who do not meet the GQE requirement, are eligible to participate in commencement and receive a Certificate of Completion (if a student has an IEP) or a Course Completion Certificate (for general education students) from Oregon-Davis Jr.-Sr. High School. These are **not** State of Indiana Diplomas.

### **INDIANA CORE 40**

The Core 40 is the minimum diploma option a student can choose to complete when entering high school unless he/she goes through an "opt-out" process.

The Indiana Core 40 curriculum will better prepare students for the future regardless of whether the student intends to enter a four-year college, two-year college, vocational school, or the work force after high school.

The State of Indiana requires that all students create a four-year plan based on the Core 40 curriculum.

The goal is for all Indiana students to fulfill an educational plan that will empower them to become capable workers and citizens of the future.

Core 40 has been adopted as the minimum college admissions requirement for most Indiana colleges. Many colleges and universities have admissions requirements that are above the Core 40 curriculum. Currently, receiving a Core 40 Diploma makes a student eligible to receive up to 80% scholarship based on financial need.

Students who complete the Core 40 curriculum will receive a Core 40 sticker on his/her diploma signifying his/her accomplishment.

### **Core 40 Diploma Requirements**

8 credits in English

6 credits in mathematics (Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II)

Notes: If the student took Algebra I in junior high, this course does count toward the required math sequence if the credits appear on the high school transcript. However, the student

must take either an upper level math class (Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry or Calculus) or a Physics

course during the junior or senior year.

6 credits in science (2 credits must be in Biology I)

6 credits in social studies (2 credits of World History or Geography/History of World, 2 credits of U.S. History, 1 credit of U.S. Government, 1 credit of Economics)

1 credit in Digital Communication Tools

2 credits in Health (1 credit Health and Wellness, 1 credit Advanced Health & Wellness)

2 credits in Physical Education (PE I & II)

5 credits in Directed Electives (World Languages, Fine Arts, Career/Technical)

9 credits in Electives (Career Academic Sequence is recommended)

45 Total Credits

Students must also complete the New Graduation Qualifying Exam (GQE) requirements described previously.

### **SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN FOR CORE 40**

Students who earn below average (D's, F's) grades in junior high math are recommended to start with Pre-Algebra. Students who receive average(C) or higher grades will automatically be placed in Algebra I. Students who take Algebra I in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and receive at least a "C" will begin in Geometry. The State of Indiana has recommended that students take a math course all four years. The State **requires** all students to take either a higher level math course or physics course during their junior or senior year.

#### **FRESHMAN YEAR**

##### 1st Semester

1. English 9
2. Physical Education I
3. W. History/Geography Hist. Of World
4. Pre-Algebra/Algebra I/Geometry

##### 2nd Semester

1. English 9
2. Health and Wellness
3. W. History/Geography Hist. Of World
4. Pre-Alg/Algebra I/Geometry

5. Biology I
6. Digital Communication Tools
7. Elective

5. Biology I
6. Elective
7. Elective

**SAMPLE NEW TECH  
FRESHMAN YEAR**

- 1st Semester
1. English 9
  2. World History
  3. Physical Education I
  4. Digital Communication Tools
  5. Pre-Algebra/Algebra I/Geometry
  6. Biology I
  7. Fundamentals of Agriculture

- 2nd Semester
1. English 9
  2. World History
  3. Health and Wellness
  4. Elective
  5. Pre-Alg/Algebra I/Geometry
  6. Biology I
  7. Fundamentals of Agriculture

English 9 and World History will be combined.  
 DCT and Pre-Algebra/Algebra will be alternating periods.  
 Biology I and Fundamentals of Agriculture will be combined.

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

- 1st Semester
1. English 10
  2. Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra II
  3. (Science)
  4. Physical Education II
  5. Directed Elective
  6. Elective
  7. Elective

- 2nd Semester
1. English 10
  2. Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra II
  3. (Science)
  4. Advanced Health
  5. Directed Elective
  6. Elective
  7. Elective

**SAMPLE NEW TECH  
SOPHOMORE YEAR**

- 1st Semester
1. English 10
  2. Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra II
  3. (Science)
  4. Physical Education II
  5. Introduction to Engineering Design
  6. Elective
  7. Elective

- 2nd Semester
1. English 10
  2. Algebra I/Geometry/Algebra II
  3. (Science)
  4. Advanced Health
  5. Introduction to Engineering Design
  6. Elective
  7. Elective

English 10 and U.S. History will be combined classes.  
 Geometry and IED.  
 Agriculture course and Science course may also be combined.

**JUNIOR YEAR**

1st Semester

2nd Semester

1. English II
2. U.S. History
3. Geometry/Algebra II
4. (Science)
5. Directed Elective
6. Elective
7. Elective

1. English 11
2. U.S. History
3. Geometry/Algebra II
4. (Science)
5. Directed Elective
6. Elective
7. Elective

*Substitute a vocational program for Technical Honors.*

### SENIOR YEAR

#### 1st Semester

1. English 12
2. Economics
3. Algebra II
4. Directed Elective
5. Elective
6. Elective
7. Elective

#### 2nd Semester

1. English 12
2. U.S. Government
3. Algebra II
4. Elective
5. Elective
6. Elective
7. Elective

*Substitute a vocational program for Technical Honors.*

### CORE 40 WITH TECHNICAL HONORS

Students planning to attend a Vocational/Technical school, apply for an apprenticeship program, or enter the work force directly after high school might want to develop a vocational specialization during the junior and senior years by adding the Technical Honors endorsement to the Core 40 Requirements. Oregon-Davis will award a Core 40 diploma with Technical Honors

along with a special notation on the student's permanent grade transcript and diploma to any student who earns a minimum of 47 total credits and meets the following criteria:

- 1) Completes all Core 40 Requirements.
- 2) Earns at least 8 credits in a vocational program specializing in a career area.
- 3) Earns a state-recognized certification or certificate of technical achievement in the specialized career/technical program.
- 4) Earns a grade of C or above in all courses that count toward this diploma.
- 5) Earns a cumulative grade point average of at least a B by graduation.

Students can earn both an Academic Honors and Technical Honors Diploma as long as all of the requirements for both diplomas are met.

### FOUR-YEAR PLANNING GUIDES FOR CORE 40 WITH TECHNICAL HONORS

The course requirements needed to add a Technical Honors endorsement to a Core 40 diploma can be built into the preceding Core 40 four-year plan by adding a vocational program in place of the recommended courses, directed electives and electives as indicated in the right hand margins of the Core 40 four-year plan.

## CORE 40 WITH ACADEMIC HONORS

Students planning to attend a four-year college are encouraged to add an Academic Honors endorsement to the Core 40 requirements. Oregon-Davis will award a Core 40 with Academic Honors Diploma to any student who earns a minimum of 47 total credits and meets the following criteria:

- 1) Completes all Core 40 Requirements.
- 2) Earns an additional 2 credits in advanced math beyond the required 6 math credits (Pre-calculus/Trigonometry or Calculus).
- 3) Earns 6 credits in one World Language or earns 8 credits (4 from each) from two different World Languages
- 4) Earns 2 credits in fine arts (art or music).
- 5) Earns a grade of C or above in all courses that count toward this diploma.
- 6) Earns a cumulative grade point average of at least a B by graduation.
- 7) Completion of one of the following:
  - a. 2 AP courses & corresponding AP exams
  - b. Academic dual HS/college course resulting in 6 college credits
  - c. AP course & Corresponding AP exam & 3 college credits from an academic dual HS/college course
  - d. Score of 1200 or higher on SAT (CR & M)
  - e. Score of 26 or higher on ACT (Composite)

### SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN FOR CORE 40 WITH ACADEMIC HONORS

#### FRESHMAN YEAR

<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>2nd Semester</u>
1. <u>English 9</u>	1. <u>English 9</u>
2. <u>Physical Education I</u>	2. <u>Health and Wellness</u>
3. <u>W. History/Geography Hist. Of World</u>	3. <u>W. History/Geography Hist. Of World</u>
4. <u>Algebra I/Geometry</u>	4. <u>Algebra I/Geometry</u>
5. <u>Biology I</u>	5. <u>Biology I</u>
6. <u>Spanish I</u>	6. <u>Spanish I</u>
7. <u>Digital Communication Tools</u>	7. <u>Elective</u>

#### SOPHOMORE YEAR

<u>1st Semester</u>	<u>2nd Semester</u>
1. <u>English 10</u>	1. <u>English 10</u>
2. <u>Geometry/Algebra II</u>	2. <u>Geometry/Algebra II</u>
3. <u>(Science)</u>	3. <u>(Science)</u>
4. <u>Advanced Health</u>	4. <u>Physical Education II</u>
5. <u>Spanish II</u>	5. <u>Spanish II</u>
6. <u>Fine Arts (Music or Art)</u>	6. <u>Fine Arts (Music or Art)</u>
7. <u>Elective</u>	7. <u>Elective</u>

#### JUNIOR YEAR

- 1st Semester
1. English II
  2. U.S. History
  3. Algebra II/Pre-Calculus
  4. (Science)
  5. Spanish III
  6. Elective
  7. Elective

- 2nd Semester
1. English II
  2. U.S. History
  3. Algebra II/Trigonometry
  4. (Science)
  5. Spanish III
  6. Elective
  7. Elective

### SENIOR YEAR

- 1st Semester
1. English 12/AP English 12
  2. Economics
  3. Pre-Calculus/AP Calculus
  4. AP or Dual Credit Course\*
  5. AP or Dual Credit Course\*
  6. Elective
  7. Elective

- 2nd Semester
1. English 12/AP English 12
  2. U.S. Government
  3. Trigonometry/AP Calculus
  4. AP or Dual Credit Course\*
  5. AP or Dual Credit Course\*
  6. Elective
  7. Elective

\*Students **must complete one** of the following for Core 40 With Academic Honors Diploma:

- 2 AP courses & corresponding exams
- 2 dual credit courses = 6 college credit hours
- 1 AP course & corresponding exam and 1 dual credit course = 3 credit hours
- Score at least a 1200 on the SAT (CR & Math combined)
- Score at least a 26 on the ACT

### GENERAL DIPLOMA

**Beginning with the class of 2011, students can no longer enter high school on this diploma track. To pursue a General Diploma students must go through an “Opt-out” process (IC20-32-4-7,8,9,10).**

To “Opt-out” of Core 40 a meeting must be held with the guidance counselor or principal and at least one of the following must have occurred to prompt the meeting:

1. Parent must request that a student be exempted from the Core 40 curriculum and will then be required to complete the general diploma; or
2. The student does not pass at least three (3) Core 40 courses; or
3. The student receives a score on the GQE during his/her first attempt that is in the twenty-fifth percentile or lower.

At the meeting the student’s academic progress must be discussed along with a review of his/her career and course plan.

### MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A GENERAL DIPLOMA

Throughout the student’s four years of high school, he/she must earn at least 45 credits in the following areas:

- 8 credits in English
- 6 credits in mathematics (must include 2 credits of Algebra I)
- 6 credits in science (must include 2 credits in Biology I)



- 6 credits in Social Studies (2 credits in U.S. History, 1 credit in U.S. Government, 1 credit in Economics, 2 credits in World History or Geography/History of World)
- 2 credits in Physical Education (PE I & II)
- 2 credits in Health (1 credit in Health and Wellness, 1 credit in Advanced Health)
- 1 credit in Digital Communication Tools
- 6 credits in a career academic sequence (see pp. 11-20)
- 6 flex credits in one of the following categories:
  - a.) Complete additional courses in a career academic sequence
  - b.) Complete a vocational program preparing the student for a specific occupation
  - c.) Complete college level courses (AP courses).
  - d.) Take additional courses in English, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, World Languages or Fine Arts
- 2 credits in elective courses
- 45 Total Credits

**SAMPLE FOUR YEAR PLAN FOR  
GENERAL DIPLOMA**

**FRESHMAN YEAR**

1st Semester

2nd Semester

1. English 9
2. Physical Education I
3. W. History/Geography Hist. Of World
4. Pre-Algebra/Algebra I
5. Biology I
6. Digital Communication Tools
7. \_\_\_\_\_

1. English 9
2. Health and Wellness
3. W. History/Geography Hist. Of World
4. Pre-Algebra/Algebra I
5. Biology I
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

**SOPHOMORE YEAR**

1st Semester

2nd Semester

1. English 10
2. Algebra I/Geometry
3. (Science)
4. Physical Education II
5. \_\_\_\_\_

1. English 10
2. Algebra I/Geometry
3. (Science)
4. Advanced Health
5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

**JUNIOR YEAR**

1st Semester

2nd Semester

1. English 11 \_\_\_\_\_
2. U.S. History \_\_\_\_\_
3. Geometry/ Algebra II \_\_\_\_\_
4. (Science) \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

1. English 11 \_\_\_\_\_
2. U.S. History \_\_\_\_\_
3. Geometry/Algebra II \_\_\_\_\_
4. (Science) \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

**SENIOR YEAR**

1st Semester

2nd Semester

1. English 12 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Economics \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

1. English 12 \_\_\_\_\_
2. U.S. Government \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_

Note: During freshman and sophomore years, students must choose seven (7) courses each semester. During their junior and senior years a student may choose to participate in a vocational program. These programs replace some of the periods during the day. The number of periods varies depending on the program. Students who are not participating in a vocational program must select at least six courses plus one teacher's aid. Students that are collegebound are discouraged from taking teacher's assistance.

### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY STATEMENT**

Oregon-Davis Jr./Sr. High School (5990 N. 750 E., Hamlet, IN 46532) has a policy of providing equal opportunity. All courses are open to all students regardless of age, race, color, sex, handicapping conditions, or national origin including limited English proficiency. Educational services, programs, instruction and facilities will not be denied to anyone in the Oregon-Davis School Corporation as the result of his/her race, color, sex, handicapping conditions, or national origin including limited English proficiency. For further information concerning the above, contact the High School Principal at 574-867-4561 or the Superintendents office 574-867-2111.