Vista Charter School

COURSE CATALOG

2024-2025

SCAN TO ENROLL NOW!

Welcome to Vista Charter School

Vista Charter School offers an individualized alternative approach to learning while ensuring our students are prepared with the knowledge and understanding of the workforce and career pathways they are interested in. Vista Charter School offers personalized opportunities for students to choose their personal paths in careers.

Credit Requirements:

English

4 Credits Required

Math

4 Credits Required

Social Studies

3 Credits Required

Science

3 Credits Required

District Capstone

1 Credit Required

Electives

3 Credits Required

Career Pathways

2 Credits Required

Social Emotional Learning

1 Credit Required

14 hours of Community Service

Graduation Plan

	21 credits needed to graduate	VISTA GRADUATION PLAN									
	Name:						Date:				TOTALS
Math (4 credits)	.5 Math	.5 Math	.5 Math	.5 Math	.5 Math	.5 Math	.25 CORE	.25 CORE	.25 CORE	.25 CORE	MATH 4
Language (4 credits)		.5 Language	.5 Language	.5 Language	.5 Language	.5 Language	.25 CORE	.25 CORE	.25 CORE	.25 CORE	English 4
Social Studies (3 credits)	.5 Social Studies	.5 Social Studies	.5 Social Studies	.5 Social Studies	.5 Civics	.5 Civics					SS 3
Science (3 credits)	.5 Science	.5 Science	.5 Science	.5 Science	.5 Science	.5 Science					SCIENCE 3
District Capstone (1 credit)	.25 DISCAP	.25 DISCAP	.25 DISCAP	.25 DISCAP							ICAP 1
Electives (3 credits)	.5 Elective	.5 Elective	.5 Elective	.5 Elective	.5 Elective	.5 Elective					ELECTIVES 3
Career Pathways (2 credit)	.5 Career Pathways	.5 Career Pathways	.5 Career Pathways	.5 Career Pathways							Career Pathway 2
Social Emotional Learning (1 credit)	.5 Vista Disco (Basecamp	.5 SEL									BASECAMP/SEL 1
NWEA MAP Score	Math 232	Language 221	Read 224	Science 215	GROWTH IN MAP TEST MUST BE DEOMONSTR. 14 HOURS OF WORK, COMMUNITY SERVICE OR INDEPENDENT LEARNING MUST BE RECORDED PER WEEK WHILE ENROLLED AT					Total Credits:	21
	Unlisted Credits Earned										

Credit Requirements

Individual Academic and Career Portfolio (ICAP)

Vista's Capstone Project, known as ICAP, provides a structured means to support students in achieving their potential, actively contributing to his/her own learning, and being prepared for college, work, and life. ICAP is a graduation requirement from the Colorado Dept. of Education in which each student creates a culminating presentation of learning through a student portfolio and submits the student portfolio for review. Each course and project presented in the portfolio must meet the proficiency requirements as indicated based on the various rubrics.

The State of Colorado has implemented new graduation guidelines. Therefore, in addition to the above credit requirements, students must demonstrate college or career readiness in English and Mathematics based on at least one of the following board-approved measures. This menu lists the minimum scores required:

NWEA

Reading: 224 Mathematics: 234
Language Usage: 222 Science: 215
Overall growth of one year (10 points)

ACT

English: 18 Mathematics: 19
ACT is a national college admission exam that measures four subjects: English, Reading, Math, and Science. The highest possible score for each subject is 36.

ASVAB

English: 31 (AFQT) Mathematics: 31 (AFQT)
The Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) is a comprehensive test that helps determine a student's eligibility and suitability for careers in the military. It also serves as an excellent general career aptitude test for all students, regardless of military service interest. Students who take the ASVAB are not required to join the military.

SAT

English: 470 Mathematics: 500
The SAT is a national college entrance exam. The highest possible score for each section is 800.

Capstone

Reading: Competency-Based | Mathematics: Competency-Based

Capstone is the culminating exhibition of a student's project or experience that demonstrates academic and intellectual learning. Capstone projects are district-determined and often include a portfolio of a student's best work.

ACT WorkKeys

Reading: Bronze or higher | Mathematics: Bronze or Higher

ACT WorkKeys is an assessment that tests a student's job skills in applied reading, writing, mathematics, and 21st-century skills. Scores are based on job profiles that help employers select, hire, train, develop, and retrain a high-performance workforce. Students must score at the bronze level (with a score of at least 3) in all three assessments: Mathematics, Graphic Literacy, and Workplace Documents. They will earn the ACT's National Career Readiness Certificate.

Course Offerings
Credit Requirements
Learning Options

Social Emotional Learning

1.0 Credit

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Basecamp **Vista Requirement**	Vista Basecamp is an entry pathway designed for skills acquisition, allowing individual students to develop and use their existing strengths and to identify, practice, and master skills that require improvement. The skills taught include work skills, communications skills and problem solving skills. In addition, Basecamp strives to guide students in positive self development and community building.	.5
Cognitive Behavior Therapy (CBT)	Evidence-based treatment for several mental health struggles like anxiety, depression, and addiction. CBT group is offered at Vista to help students learn to recognize the distortions in their thinking that are creating problems and then reevaluate them in light of reality. Gain a better understanding of the behavior and motivation of others. Use problem-solving skills to cope with difficult situations. Learn to develop a greater sense of confidence in one's own abilities.	.5
Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT)	A modified type of cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT). DBT group is offered to Vista students with the goals to teach students how to live in the moment, develop healthy ways to cope with stress, regulate their emotions, and improve their relationships with others.	.5
Private Outside Therapy	Private therapy is when a mental health professional works independently or in a small group to provide mental health services to clients outside of the school setting.	.5

Wild Horse Course through TAME	This course is for individuals looking to heal something within themselves through the help of horses. The wild horse course is a 9 week program that teaches confidence, teamwork, patience and partnership. Have you ever thought about what it's like to meet a wild horse? Do you ever feel wild, but maybe you need to hold back for whatever reason? Join me in a journey of self discovery and help give some wild horses an opportunity to teach you things you couldn't even imagine were possible. Did you know it is scientifically proven that horses can read our emotions, and that they adapt their behavior according to what they sense we are feeling? Are you struggling with confidence, boundary setting, or following your own intuition? Imagine being able to clearly communicate with these majestic beings with just the use of energy and having a clear, conscious response that they indeed understand you! Allow me to guide you with hands-on experiential healing through my formerly wild horses to gain personal empowerment.	.5 Elective & .5 Career Planning & .5 SEL

Math

4.0 Credits

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Personal Finance	Personal Finance is a course designed to help students understand the impact of individual choices on occupational goals and future earnings potential. Topics covered will include income, money management, spending and credit, as well as saving and investing.	.5
General Math	This course is designed to increase students' foundational math skills and prepare them for Algebra I by covering a variety of topics, such as properties of rational numbers (i.e., number theory), ratio, proportion, estimation, exponents and radicals, the rectangular coordinate system, sets and logic, formulas, and solving first degree equations and inequalities	.5
Algebra 1	Algebra I includes the study of properties and operations of the real number system; evaluating rational algebraic expressions; solving and graphing first degree equations and inequalities; translating word problems into equations; operations with and factoring of polynomials; and solving simple quadratic equations.	.5

English

4.0 Credits

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Independent Project Based Learning	This course is designed for learners who wish to engage in self-directed, project-based learning while focusing on developing skills and learning outcomes based on the Colorado Standards. This course will emphasize skills and dispositions essential for success in the 21st century. Through this independent project-based learning experience, students will have the opportunity to explore and enhance their abilities in critical thinking, collaboration, communication, creativity, and self-directed learning.	.5
Thematic Reading Writing and Communicating 9-10:	Thematic Reading, Writing, and Communicating class is designed for students who are participating in an Alternative Education Program. This course meets the Colorado State Standards for reading and writing, including reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, research, and communications. Lessons are theme-based and explore universal concepts. This class makes real-world connections and historical connections. The class is designed to meet student's individual needs and is designed with each student's current skills and abilities. The class is designed to help each student meet the Colorado Academic Standards.	.5
Thematic Reading Writing and Communicating 11-12	Thematic Reading, Writing, and Communicating class is designed for students who are participating in an Alternative Education Program. This course meets the Colorado State Standards for reading and writing, including reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, research, and communications. Lessons are theme-based and explore universal concepts; additionally, they require real-world application of these skills. This class makes real-world connections and historical connections. The class is designed to meet student's individual needs and is designed with each student's current skills and abilities. The class is	.5

	designed to help each student meet the Colorado Academic Standards.	
Multi-Media Production	Digital Media is a project-based survey of different forms of digital media, such as digital audio, imaging and illustration, movie editing, and animation. It's oriented toward teaching students how to use Adobe Express and other digital applications. Each module of the digital media online course ends with a culminating task (like a podcast or short film), and students will be able to draft and develop their projects as they build their skills over each lesson. Students will have several portfolio pieces to demonstrate their learning and will also help create and manage an online newsletter.	.5
Project Based Reading, Writing and Communicating	Project-Based Reading, Writing, and Communicating class is designed for students who are participating in an Alternative Education Program. This course meets the Colorado State Standards for reading and writing, including reading, writing, grammar, vocabulary, research, and communications. Students will explore real-world problems and challenges, conduct research, interview experts, create a product, and create a final presentation. The class is designed to meet student's individual needs and is designed with each student's current skills and abilities. The class is designed to help each student meet the Colorado Academic Standards for Reading, Writing, and Communicating.	.5
Spanish 1	Spanish 1 integrates all the modalities of Spanish, speaking, reading, writing, and listening, to help the students achieve a basic level of proficiency. Students will study the most elementary concepts of grammar, vocabulary, dialogue, and culture, focusing on activities and routines used in daily life at school and home. The big idea of Spanish I includes mastery of the two forms of the verb "to be" (ser and estar) and how and when to accurately use them. It is a gentle introduction to the language and culture as a whole, and develops skills through reading, writing, and listening assignments	.5

Science

3.0 Credits

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Science Foundation	A combination of lectures, laboratory exercises, and assignments will introduce you to ways of observing and thinking about fundamental concepts and processes common to many living organisms (basic chemistry and biochemistry, cells, energy acquisition, and genetics).	.5
Anatomy & Physiology	This course has major focuses on histology, anatomy, and physiology of the major organ systems found in the human body. Nutrition and evolution are also discussed. Students gain an understanding of the structure and function of the human body on a variety of complex levels.	.5
Botany/ Environmental Science	Botany is the scientific study of plants and their relationship to the environment. In this course, students investigate the growth, reproduction, anatomy, morphology, physiology, biochemistry, taxonomy, genetics, and ecology of plants.	.5
Zoology 1	This course provides an in-depth study of animal life, focusing on the diversity, structure, function, and behavior of animals. Students will explore the fascinating world of animals through both theoretical knowledge and practical experiences. Key topics include: • Animal Classification: Understanding the taxonomy and systematics of both vertebrates and invertebrates. • Anatomy and Physiology: Studying the structure and function of animal bodies, including major organ systems. • Development and Reproduction: Exploring the life cycles, reproductive strategies, and developmental processes of various animal species. • Behavior and Ethology: Investigating animal behavior, communication, and social structures.	.5

	• Ecology and Habitats: Examining the relationships between animals and their environments, including adaptations to different habitats. • Evolution and Genetics: Understanding the principles of evolution, natural selection, and genetic inheritance in animals. • Conservation Biology: Discussing the importance of biodiversity and strategies for the conservation of endangered species and habitats. Throughout the course, students will engage in laboratory experiments, field studies, and projects to apply their knowledge and develop critical thinking skills. This course aims to foster a deep appreciation for the animal kingdom and inspire students to pursue further studies in biological sciences.	
Zoology 2	This course provides an in-depth study of animal life, focusing on the diversity, structure, function, and behavior of animals. Students will explore the fascinating world of animals through both theoretical knowledge and practical experiences. Key topics include: • Advanced Animal Physiology: Delving into the intricate functions of animal organ systems, including comparative physiology across species. • Behavioral Ecology: Investigating the ecological and evolutionary basis of animal behavior, including mating systems, foraging strategies, and social structures. • Evolutionary Biology: Exploring advanced concepts in evolution, such as speciation, phylogenetics, and evolutionary developmental biology. • Conservation and Biodiversity: Examining the principles and practices of wildlife conservation, habitat preservation, and the impact of human activities on biodiversity. • Marine Biology: Studying the unique adaptations and ecological roles of marine organisms, including coral reefs, deep-sea creatures, and marine mammals.	.5

	• Parasitology: Understanding the biology of parasites and their interactions with host organisms, including the impact on ecosystems and human health. • Field Research Techniques: Learning advanced methods for conducting field research, including data collection, analysis, and reporting. • Students will also continue looking at the unique phyla of organisms. •	
Physics	This course offers a thorough introduction to the fundamental principles of physics, emphasizing both conceptual understanding and practical application. Students will explore the natural world through mathematical models and experimental investigations. Key topics include: • Motion and Forces: Understanding the laws of motion, gravity, and the forces that govern the movement of objects. • Energy and Work: Exploring different forms of energy, the concept of work, and the principles of conservation of energy. • Momentum and Collisions: Studying the principles of momentum, impulse, and the outcomes of collisions. • Waves and Sound: Investigating the properties of waves, sound, and their applications in various technologies. • Light and Optics: Understanding the behavior of light, reflection, refraction, and optical instruments. • Electricity and Magnetism: Learning about electric forces, electric fields, circuits, and the relationship between electricity and magnetism. • Thermodynamics: Exploring the laws of thermodynamics, heat transfer, and the behavior of gases. • Modern Physics: Introducing concepts such as relativity, quantum mechanics, and atomic structure.	.5 science or .25 science & .25 math

	Throughout the course, students will engage in hands-on laboratory experiments to reinforce theoretical knowledge and develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills. This course aims to provide a solid foundation for further studies in physics and other scientific disciplines.	
Chemistry	This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the fundamental principles of chemistry. Students will explore the composition, properties, and changes of matter through both theoretical and practical approaches. Key topics include: • Atomic Structure: Understanding the building blocks of matter, including protons, neutrons, and electrons. • Periodic Table: Learning about the organization of elements and their properties. • Chemical Bonding: Investigating how atoms combine to form molecules through ionic, covalent, and metallic bonds. • Chemical Reactions: Studying different types of reactions, balancing equations, and understanding reaction rates. • Stoichiometry: Applying mathematical concepts to quantify substances in chemical reactions. • Thermodynamics: Exploring energy changes in chemical processes. • Acids and Bases: Examining the properties, theories, and reactions of acids and bases. • Solutions: Understanding solubility, concentration, and properties of solutions. • Kinetics and Equilibrium: Analyzing the factors that affect reaction rates and the state of balance in chemical systems. • Introduction to Organic Chemistry: Learning the basics of carbon-based compounds and their reactions. Throughout the course, students will engage in laboratory experiments to reinforce theoretical knowledge and develop practical skills. This course aims to build a strong	.5 science or .25 science and .25 math

	foundation for further studies in chemistry and related sciences.	
Intro to Biology	This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the principles governing all life. Students will explore the fundamental concepts of biology through both theoretical study and practical application. Key topics include: • Cell Biology: Understanding the structure and function of cells, including cell reproduction and cellular processes. • Genetics: Exploring the principles of heredity, DNA structure, and genetic variation. • Evolution: Studying the mechanisms of evolution and natural selection. • Ecology: Examining the interactions between organisms and their environments, including ecosystems and biodiversity. • Human Biology: Learning about the human body systems and their functions. This course aims to provide a solid foundation for further studies in biology and related sciences.	.5
Astronomy and Geological Science	This interdisciplinary course combines the study of astronomy and geological sciences to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of Earth's place in the universe and the dynamic processes that shape our planet. Key topics include: • Introduction to Astronomy: Exploring the history of astronomy, the tools used to study the universe, and the basics of celestial navigation. • Solar System: Examining the characteristics and formation of planets, moons, asteroids, and comets within our solar system. • Stars and Galaxies: Understanding the life cycles of stars, the structure of galaxies, and the vastness of the universe. • Earth's Structure and Composition: Investigating the layers of the Earth, including the crust, mantle, and core, and the materials that make up these layers.	.5

	• Plate Tectonics: Studying the movement of Earth's lithospheric plates and the resulting geological features such as mountains, earthquakes, and volcanoes. • Geologic Time: Understanding the history of Earth through the study of rock formations, fossils, and the geologic time scale. • Weathering and Erosion: Exploring the processes that break down rocks and shape the Earth's surface. • Climate and Atmosphere: Examining Earth's climate systems, atmospheric composition, and the impact of human activities on climate change. • Observational Astronomy: Developing skills in using telescopes and other instruments to observe celestial objects. • Space Exploration: Studying the history and future of human and robotic exploration of space. Throughout the course, students will engage in hands-on activities, laboratory experiments, and field studies to apply their knowledge and develop critical thinking skills. This course aims to inspire a lifelong interest in both astronomy and geological sciences, providing a solid foundation for further studies in these fields.	

Social Studies

3.0 Credits

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Social Studies Foundation	American History provides students with the opportunity to acquire an understanding of the chronological development of the American people and government by examining the political, economic, social, religious, military, scientific, and cultural events that have affected the rise and growth of the nation.	.5
Civics 1 **CDE State Requirement**	Civics provides the cornerstone skills that are key to opening doors for a more diverse, competitive workforce and responsible citizenry. In this class, we will explore the beginnings of government in Europe and eventually the United States, beginning with the ancient Greek Philosopher, through the philosophers of the Enlightenment, and then into the American Revolution, the drafting of the Constitution, and the finish with what it means to be a citizen, and what are the responsibilities of a citizen in modern society.	.5
Civics 2	Civics provides the cornerstone skills that are key to opening doors for a more diverse, competitive workforce and responsible citizenry. In this class, we will explore the beginnings of government in Europe and eventually the United States, beginning with the ancient Greek Philosopher, through the philosophers of the Enlightenment, and then into the American Revolution, the drafting of the Constitution, and the finish with what it means to be a citizen, and what are the responsibilities of a citizen in modern society.	.5
Historical Materials	This course is a historical/research skills class based on watching movies depicting historical events and then reading the actual history to create a project doing a comparison and contrast, learning research, annotation, summarizing, and Historical information writing skills.	.5

Current Events (We have options for students to do it individually or as a group)	In this dynamic and engaging course, students will explore current events and their impact on the world around us. Through the study of local, national, and international issues, students will develop a deeper understanding of political, social, economic, and environmental matters that shape our society today. Students will be encouraged to critically analyze news stories, understand diverse perspectives, and evaluate the reliability of sources. Throughout the course, students will create three comprehensive research projects on selected current event topics of their choice, allowing them to dive deeper into the issues that resonate with them. These projects will involve thorough research, evidence-based argumentation, and thoughtful presentation. By the end of this course, students will become more informed, active citizens who can engage thoughtfully with the world's most pressing issues. This class encourages critical thinking, collaboration, and meaningful dialogue, empowering students to make connections between the classroom and real-world events.	.5
World Religions	This course explores the rich tapestry of world religions and their profound influence on human history, culture, and society. Students will embark on a journey through time to study the origins, beliefs, practices, and historical developments of seven major world religions: Hinduism, Judaism, Buddhism, Christianity, Daoism, Confucianism, and Islam. Through a comparative approach, the course will examine how these religions shaped civilizations, interacted with political systems, influenced art, philosophy, and law, and impacted global conflicts and cooperation. Students will engage with primary texts, historical accounts, and modern interpretations to gain a deeper understanding of each religion's core teachings and their roles in shaping both ancient and contemporary societies. By the end of the course, students will have a nuanced appreciation for religious diversity, interfaith dialogue, and the role of religion in shaping our global heritage. Critical thinking, cultural empathy, and historical analysis will be	.5

	emphasized throughout the course, encouraging students to draw connections between past and present.	
Nurse-Family Partnership Infant Program	This course introduces students to responsible nurturing and basic applications of child development theory with children from zero to twelve months. Areas of study include nurturing, bonding, self-care, nutrition, parenting, child care issues, human development and care of infants. Emphasis is on responsibilities of parents, and the influence parents have on children while providing care, discipline and guidance. Course Competencies Upon completion of this course, students will be able to: Understand childcare issues. Understand the development and care of infants from zero to twelve months. Understand the importance of bonding & nurturing a newborn Understand the importance of self-care Understand discipline and guidance strategies. Understand the importance of play and freedom of movement. Understand temperament and its role in development. Understand the health and safety issues of infants. Policies & Procedures Students are expected to be on time for appointments and notify their nurse if they need to cancel or reschedule an appointment. Full participation is required for all activities, as you will learn by doing things and participating in discussions.	.5
Community Engagement and Service Learning	In this hands-on course, students will actively engage in community service by volunteering with a local community organization for a minimum of 45 hours. The course is designed to foster a sense of social responsibility, empathy, and civic engagement through direct service. Students will	.5

	gain a deeper understanding of community needs while developing personal and interpersonal skills. Throughout the project, students will maintain a reflective journal to document their experiences, thoughts, and personal growth. This journal will encourage self-reflection on the impact of their volunteer work and the role of community involvement in addressing societal challenges. In addition, students will visually document their experience through photographs, providing a creative way to capture the essence of their contribution. At the conclusion of the course, students will present their volunteer experience to their peers, sharing key insights, challenges, and the broader importance of community service. The presentation will emphasize how individual actions can make a meaningful difference and inspire others to engage in community improvement efforts. This course encourages active participation, critical thinking, and self-reflection, empowering students to become engaged and responsible members of their communities. Expectations To complete this course, you will need to produce the following Key Components: Volunteer Work: 45 hours of service with a local community group or organization. Personal Reflection Journal: Regular entries reflecting on the volunteer experience, challenges, and lessons learned. Photo Documentation: Capturing meaningful moments and activities during the service project. Final Presentation: A summary of the student's experience, highlighting the significance of community involvement.	

Electives

3.0 Credits

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Outdoor Education	Outdoor education courses, also known as environmental science education, are experiential learning programs that take place in outdoor environments and provide hands-on education. They can help students develop a connection with their surroundings, appreciate nature, and apply classroom learning in real life. Outdoor education courses can also help students develop skills like communication, problem-solving, leadership, teamwork, and adaptability.	.5 science & .5 elective
Art	In this course, students will explore art history, create and recreate pieces of art, and investigate the science behind art. Students will build upon their current art skills and learn new art techniques/mediums. Students will also create a diverse art portfolio by the end of the course.	.5 Elective or .5 science Or .5 social studies

Career/ICAP

1.0 Credit

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Career ICAP **CDE State Requirement**	This course is designed to guide students through the process of career exploration and academic planning, helping them to create a personalized roadmap for their future. Students will develop the skills and knowledge necessary to make informed decisions about their postsecondary education and career paths. Key topics include: • Self-Assessment: Identifying personal interests, strengths, and values through various assessments and reflection activities. • Career Exploration: Researching different career options, understanding job market trends, and learning about the education and skills required for various professions. • Academic Planning: Creating a detailed academic plan that aligns with career goals, including course selection, extracurricular activities, and postsecondary education options. • Goal Setting: Setting short-term and long-term academic and career goals and developing strategies to achieve them. • Resume and Cover Letter Writing: Learning how to create effective resumes and cover letters tailored to specific job opportunities. • Interview Skills: Practicing interview techniques and learning how to present oneself professionally. • Financial Literacy: Understanding the basics of financial planning, including budgeting, saving, and managing student loans and other financial aid. • Workplace Skills: Developing essential workplace skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and time management. • Postsecondary Options: Exploring various postsecondary education and training options,	.25

	including colleges, universities, vocational schools, and apprenticeships. ● Networking and Professionalism: Learning how to build a professional network and maintain a positive online presence. Throughout the course, students will engage in hands-on activities, projects, and real-world experiences to apply their knowledge and develop practical skills. This course aims to empower students to take charge of their future and make informed decisions about their education and career paths	

Career Pathway Courses

2.0 Credits

Course	Descriptions	Credits
CMU Machining Off-Campus	The Machining course is designed to provide students with a basic understanding of the precision machining processes used in industry, manufacturing, maintenance, and repair. The program provides instruction and laboratory experience in industrial safety, terminology, tools and machine tools, measurement, and layout. Students will become familiar with print reading and with the setup and operation of power saws, drill presses, lathes, milling machines, grinders. Students will also be exposed to an introduction to CNC (computer controlled) machines..	.5 Math & .5 Science & .5 Career Planning & 1.0 Elective
Music Production Off-Campus	Vista partners with La Familia Music Group here in Montrose. La Familia music programming provides the tools, knowledge, and resources needed to create a song from scratch and make money from it. La Familia provides the youth with a safe space to express themselves in a creative way. In this course the focus is on creating music, but also learning about the history of music and how it affects the human brain and body.	.5 Science & .5 Math & .5 Elective
Vista Bike Institute	This course is a career pathway class that provides students the opportunity for a nationally recognized certificate as a Level 1 Bicycle Technician. This class spans two class periods for two successive cycles and gives students an introduction to basic bicycle building and maintenance. Workshop awareness, proper tool use, and bicycle component adjustment and operation are explored daily, giving graduates the skills necessary for internship and entry-level employment at bicycle repair shops. Students not interested in the	.5 Science & .5 Math & .5 Elective

	bicycle industry will find this class also provides excellent mechanical aptitude skills that can be a basis for exploring most trades involving tools and shop experience.	
Culinary 1	In this course, we will explore some of the basics and most important skills in forming a solid foundation for a career in the food service industry. We will learn some kitchen basics such as common equipment and utensil identification, knife skills and safety, kitchen math (measurement conversion, food costing), and sanitation.	.5 Math
Culinary 2	In this course, we will build on the skills from Culinary 1 by learning about cooking methods; the history and origin of a wide variety of foods; exploring the rich history of world culinary traditions, creating your own food truck concept, and working as a team to prepare and serve a meal. This class combines the two fields of math and social studies and presents them through a lens of business, cooking, and food. We will learn some kitchen basics such as equipment, utensils, math (measurement conversion, food costing), and sanitation, and also learn to work as a group to plan and prepare a variety of foods.	.5 Social Studies
Industrial Technology	This foundation class explores opportunities existing in a variety of today's industrial technology fields. This course introduces you to the basic required skills for many careers in industry and engineering fields by giving you actual hands-on experiences. Students examine a variety of opportunities available by learning what skills and education are necessary for success in their chosen field. Not sure of what you may enjoy? This class will use many lab areas, including electricity, wood, metals, and drafting labs, for a very useful cross-section of personal interests and opportunities.	.5 Math and .5 Career Planning

Digital Media	In a digital media class, students can learn how to create compelling messages using text, images, video, and audio. They can learn how to tailor their messages to specific audiences and communicate effectively through various platforms. In this course, we will explore the 3D design process typically involves several key stages: conceptualization, where ideas take shape; modeling, where the 3D structure is created; texturing, adding surface details and colors; lighting, to set the mood and ambiance; and finally, rendering, which transforms the 3D model into a lifelike image or animation.	.5 Math and .5 Science And .5 Career Planning and .5 Elective
Barbering 101	In this course, you will learn: sanitizing, disinfecting, and sterilization procedures. Related Sciences & General Knowledge: Study of the basic sciences, including the physiology of the hand, arm, head, and face, applying to areas where barber work is done. Shaving: Students learn the fundamentals of shaving, including positions and strokes. They practice these fundamentals by preparing the patron's face. Barber Chemistry: Specialized subject in the chemistry of cosmetic products used in the barber field. Includes studying the basic theory of molecular structure, simple organic chemistry, and the application of various compounds to cold waving, hair relaxers, chemical processing, shampoos, rinses, dyes, and various hair preparationsShop Management: Designed for persons interested in managing and owning a salon. Topics included are: local, state, and federal regulations, mathematics, accounting and taxes, inventory control, customer relations, salesmanship, advertising, record-keeping, and equipment and time utilization	.5 Science & .5 Career Planning & .5 Elective

	Salesmanship and Product Knowledge: What about after the appointment? Your attitude is everything. Hairstyling: Study in styling hair, shampooing, hair design, scalp massage, curling, brushing and combing, reconditioning hair, thermal pressing, iron curling, and hairpiece fitting and care Haircutting: Fundamentals in haircutting for both males and females. Important steps for a complete basic haircut. Procedures for cutting hair with clippers, shears, and razors. Manipulative skills are developed through the correct methods of razor and scissor hair shaping.	
Sewing	This course is an introduction to beginner fashion sewing. Students will be introduced to the world of creative sewing. Each project created during this course will have specific construction challenges. These projects will advance in level as the students achieve the new skills required. Each student will progress at his or her own pace, meeting set benchmarks as they go. Upon completion of Fashion Sewing One, students will have acquired the basic skills needed to advance to the next three levels of Fashion Sewing.	0.5 Elective & .5 Career Planning
Cosmetology	The cosmetology programs partner with vocational schools, which can provide students with hands-on experience and the opportunity to explore a career in cosmetology: During this course, students will learn: Hair care and design, in which students can learn about hair treatment, styling, and extensions, Skincare where students can learn about skincare treatment and routines, Nail treatments where students can learn about nail techniques, pedicures, and nail services	5 Math & .5 Science & .5 Career Planning

Property Management	The Construction/Property Management Career program is designed to introduce students to the many facets of the construction industry as an employee, apprentice, manager, general contractor and/ or entrepreneur. It provides students with foundation skills in all realms of residential and commercial maintenance, construction and management. Students learn basic units of carpentry, electrical, painting, plumbing, welding, flooring, wall tile, landscaping, drywall, appliance repair, and mechanical repair using hand and power tools. As students advance, they will learn about the advanced hand and power tool setup, usage, and repair. Students also learn basic customer service skills, such as how to order parts and supplies and how to conduct inventory. In addition, emphasis will be placed on obtaining employment, resume development, interviewing techniques, and computer skills. Upper level students receive units of instruction in proper licensing, ordering and managing inventory, management skills, business start up and cost analysis, bidding jobs, strategic negotiations, preparing budgets, code enforcement, and OSHA regulations, guidelines and certification.	5 Math & .5 Science & .5 Career Planning
Early Childhood Literacy	Early Literacy is a 9-week course designed specifically for Vista students. This course is designed to provide students with an in-depth look at the profession of teaching. Students study the growth and development of the learner, as well as the historical, social, political, philosophical, cultural, legal, and economic forces that shape the United States public school system. In addition, students will complete field experience in a school classroom.	.5 Career Planning & .5 Literacy

Horsemanship	This course covers the basics of riding, handling, and training horses, including how to halter, lead, saddle, and mount.	.5 Career Planning & .5 Science

Supplemental Online Courses

Defined as "one or more online courses to augment an educational program provided by a school district, charter school, or BOCES." Our online courses are offered through the VCS Canvas Platform.

Online English

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Online English for Business	This course is designed to enhance students' communication skills in a business context, preparing them for professional environments. Students will develop proficiency in business-specific language and effective communication strategies. Key topics include: • Business Vocabulary: Building a strong vocabulary related to business and professional settings. • Professional Writing: Learning to write clear, concise, and effective business documents, including emails, memos, reports, and proposals. • Oral Communication: Developing skills for effective verbal communication, including presentations, meetings, and interviews. • Interpersonal Skills: Understanding the importance of interpersonal communication in the workplace, including active listening, negotiation, and conflict resolution. • Digital Communication: Exploring the use of digital tools and platforms for business communication, including social media, video conferencing, and collaborative software. • Research and Analysis: Conducting research and analyzing information to support business decisions and strategies. • Cultural Competence: Learning to communicate effectively in diverse and global business environments. • Ethics and Professionalism: Understanding the role of ethics and professionalism in business communication.	.5

	Throughout the course, students will engage in practical activities, simulations, and projects to apply their knowledge and develop real-world business communication skills. This course aims to prepare students for success in both academic and professional settings by equipping them with the tools needed for effective business communication.	
Online Intro to Literacy	This course introduces students to the world of literature, exploring a variety of genres, themes, and literary techniques. Students will develop critical reading and analytical skills through the study of classic and contemporary works. Key topics include: • Literary Genres: Exploring different genres such as fiction, poetry, drama, and non-fiction. • Literary Elements: Understanding key elements like plot, character, setting, theme, and style. • Close Reading and Analysis: Develop skills in close reading and textual analysis to interpret and appreciate literary works. • Historical and Cultural Context: Examining how historical and cultural contexts influence literature and its themes. • Writing and Discussion: Engaging in writing assignments and discussions to articulate insights and analyses. Featured Text: Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury	.5
Online English for English Learners	This course is designed to support students from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds in developing their English language skills. The curriculum focuses on enhancing proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening while also fostering an appreciation for diverse cultures and perspectives. Key topics include:	.5

	• Language Development: Building vocabulary and grammar skills through targeted instruction and practice. • Reading Comprehension: Developing strategies for understanding and analyzing various texts, including fiction, non-fiction, and informational materials. • Writing Skills: Learning to write clear and coherent sentences, paragraphs, and essays, with an emphasis on organization, style, and mechanics. • Speaking and Listening: Improving oral communication skills through presentations, discussions, and collaborative activities. • Cultural Awareness: Exploring diverse cultures and perspectives to enhance understanding and appreciation of different backgrounds. • Academic Language: Developing the language skills necessary for success in other academic subjects, such as science, math, and social studies. • Critical Thinking: Encouraging critical thinking and problem-solving skills through analysis and discussion of various texts and topics. This course is set up through Duolingo. The final test from this is accepted at universities and colleges as proof of English Proficiency.	

Online Science

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Online Astronomy	This course offers an exciting journey through the universe, exploring celestial bodies and phenomena. Students will gain a comprehensive understanding of the cosmos through both theoretical study and practical observation. Key topics include: • Introduction to Astronomy: Understanding the history of astronomy and the tools used to study the universe. • Solar System: Examining the characteristics of planets, moons, asteroids, and comets within our solar system. • Stars and Galaxies: Learning about the life cycles of stars, the structure of galaxies, and the vastness of the universe. • Cosmology: Exploring the origin, evolution, and eventual fate of the universe. • Observational Astronomy: Developing skills in using telescopes and other instruments to observe celestial objects. • Astrophysics: Understanding the physical principles that govern the behavior of celestial bodies. • Space Exploration: Studying the history and future of human and robotic exploration of space. • Exoplanets and Astrobiology: Investigating planets beyond our solar system and the potential for life elsewhere in the universe. Throughout the course, students will engage in hands-on activities, including night sky observations and data analysis, to apply their knowledge and develop critical thinking skills. This course aims to inspire a lifelong interest in astronomy and provide a solid foundation for further studies in the field.	.5
Online Intro to Bio	In this course, students will be introduced to everything from basic science concepts to scientific	.5

	data analysis. They will examine cell biology and population dynamics. They will find out how organisms are classified and learn about the geologic time scale and evolution.	

Online Math

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Online Essential Math Concepts	In this course, students will be introduced to introductory math concepts needed to complete an Algebra class successfully. The concepts introduced will be math concepts that students will use throughout their lives.	.5
Online Pre-Algebra	This course serves as an essential foundation for high school mathematics, preparing students for the study of algebra and beyond. Students will develop a strong understanding of basic mathematical concepts and problem-solving skills. Key topics include: • Integers and Rational Numbers: Understanding and performing operations with whole numbers, fractions, and decimals. • Expressions and Equations: Learning to write, interpret, and solve one-step and multi-step equations and inequalities. • Proportional Relationships: Exploring ratios, proportions, and percentages and applying these concepts to real-world problems. • Functions and Graphs: Introducing the concept of functions and using graphs to represent relationships between variables. • Geometry Basics: Understanding basic geometric shapes, properties, and the relationships between them, including an introduction to right triangles. • Measurement and Data: Learning to measure and analyze data, including concepts of area, volume, and statistical measures. • Probability: Exploring basic probability concepts and how to calculate the likelihood of events.	.5
Online Algebra I	This course introduces students to the fundamental concepts of algebra, providing a strong foundation for future mathematics courses. Students will learn to use variables, expressions, and equations to solve problems	.5

	and understand the relationships between quantities. Key topics include: • Expressions and Equations: Learning to write, interpret, and solve linear equations and inequalities. • Functions: Understanding the concept of a function and using function notation to describe relationships between variables. • Linear Functions: Exploring the properties of linear functions, including graphing, slope, and intercepts. • Systems of Equations: Solving systems of linear equations using various methods, such as graphing, substitution, and elimination. • Polynomials: Performing operations with polynomials, including addition, subtraction, multiplication, and factoring. • Quadratic Functions: Investigating the properties of quadratic functions and solving quadratic equations by factoring, completing the square, and using the quadratic formula. • Rational Expressions: Simplifying, multiplying, and dividing rational expressions and solving rational equations. • Radical Expressions: Simplifying radical expressions and solving equations involving radicals. Throughout the course, students will reinforce their understanding and develop critical thinking skills. This course aims to build a solid mathematical foundation, preparing students for success in Algebra II and other advanced math courses.	
Online Algebra II	This course builds on the concepts learned in Algebra I, providing students with a deeper understanding of algebraic principles and preparing them for advanced mathematics. Students will explore a variety of functions and their applications, enhancing their problem-solving and analytical skills. Key topics include:	.5

	• Functions and Graphs: Studying different types of functions, including linear, quadratic, polynomial, exponential, logarithmic, and rational functions, and learning to graph and analyze them. • Equations and Inequalities: Solving complex equations and inequalities, including systems of equations and inequalities. • Polynomials: Performing operations with polynomials, including factoring, division, and solving polynomial equations. • Radical Expressions and Equations: Simplifying radical expressions and solving radical equations. • Exponential and Logarithmic Functions: Understanding the properties and applications of exponential and logarithmic functions. • Sequences and Series: Exploring arithmetic and geometric sequences and series, including finding sums and terms. • Probability and Statistics: Analyzing data, understanding probability concepts, and applying statistical methods. • Trigonometry: Introducing trigonometric functions, identities, and equations, and their applications. Throughout the course, students will reinforce their understanding and develop critical thinking skills. This course aims to provide a solid foundation for further studies in mathematics, including Pre-Calculus and Calculus.	
Online Geometry	Online Geometry This course provides a comprehensive introduction to the principles of geometry, focusing on the development of logical reasoning and spatial visualization skills. Students will explore geometric concepts through both theoretical study and practical application. Key topics include: • Basic Geometric Terms: Understanding points, lines, planes, and angles as the building blocks of geometry.	.5

	• Reasoning and Proofs: Developing skills in constructing formal logical arguments and proofs, including paragraph, two-column, flow, indirect, and coordinate proofs. • Parallel and Perpendicular Lines: Investigating the properties and relationships of parallel and perpendicular lines. • Congruent Triangles: Exploring the criteria for triangle congruence and applying them to solve problems. • Quadrilaterals and Polygons: Studying the properties and classifications of quadrilaterals and other polygons. • Similarity: Understanding the concepts of similarity and scale factors and applying them to solve problems. • Right Triangle Trigonometry: Introducing the basics of trigonometry, including the Pythagorean theorem and trigonometric ratios. • Circles: Examining the properties of circles, including arcs, chords, tangents, and sector areas. • Geometric Solids: Exploring three-dimensional shapes, including prisms, cylinders, pyramids, cones, and spheres, and calculating their surface areas and volumes. • Coordinate Geometry: Applying algebraic methods to solve geometric problems on the coordinate plane. Throughout the course, students will reinforce their understanding and develop critical thinking skills. This course aims to provide a solid foundation for further studies in mathematics and related fields.	
Online Trigonometry	This course provides an in-depth study of trigonometric concepts, preparing students for advanced mathematics courses such as Pre-Calculus and Calculus. Students will explore the relationships between the sides and angles of triangles and apply these concepts to solve real-world problems. Key topics include:	.5

	• Trigonometric Functions: Understanding and applying the six trigonometric functions (sine, cosine, tangent, cosecant, secant, and cotangent). • Angles and Their Measures: Exploring degrees and radians and converting between them. • Graphing Trigonometric Functions: Learning to graph sine, cosine, and tangent functions and understanding their properties. • Trigonometric Identities: Using fundamental identities, such as Pythagorean, reciprocal, and quotient identities, to simplify expressions and solve equations. • Solving Trigonometric Equations: Applying algebraic techniques to solve trigonometric equations. • Inverse Trigonometric Functions: Understanding and using the inverse trigonometric functions. • Law of Sines and Cosines: Solving problems involving non-right triangles using these laws. • Vectors and Their Applications: Exploring the properties of vectors and their applications in physics and engineering. • Polar Coordinates and Complex Numbers: Introducing polar coordinates and their relationship to complex numbers. Throughout the course, students will reinforce their understanding and develop critical thinking skills. This course aims to provide a solid foundation for further studies in mathematics and related fields.	
Online College Algebra	This course provides an advanced study of algebraic concepts, preparing students for college-level mathematics and various STEM fields. Students will deepen their understanding of algebraic principles and develop strong problem-solving skills. Key topics include: • Functions and Graphs: Exploring different types of functions, including linear, quadratic, polynomial, rational, exponential, and	.5

	logarithmic functions, and learning to graph and analyze them. • Equations and Inequalities: Solving complex equations and inequalities, including systems of equations and inequalities. • Polynomials: Performing operations with polynomials, including factoring, division, and solving polynomial equations. • Exponential and Logarithmic Functions: Understanding the properties and applications of exponential and logarithmic functions. • Sequences and Series: Investigating arithmetic and geometric sequences and series, including finding sums and terms. • Matrices and Determinants: Learning the basics of matrices, matrix operations, and determinants and their applications in solving systems of equations. • Conic Sections: Studying the properties and equations of conic sections, including circles, ellipses, parabolas, and hyperbolas. • Probability and Statistics: Analyzing data, understanding probability concepts, and applying statistical methods. • Complex Numbers: Exploring the arithmetic and geometric representation of complex numbers. Throughout the course, students will reinforce their understanding and develop critical thinking skills. This course aims to provide a solid foundation for further studies in mathematics, including Pre-Calculus and Calculus, and to prepare students for college-level coursework.	
Online Personal Finance **Vista Requirement**	This course equips students with the essential skills and knowledge needed to manage their personal finances effectively. Students will learn to make informed financial decisions that will benefit them throughout their lives. Key topics include:	.5

	• Financial Literacy: Understanding the basics of financial planning, including setting financial goals and creating a personal budget. • Income and Taxes: Learning about different sources of income, payroll deductions, and how to file taxes. • Banking and Financial Services: Exploring various banking services, including checking and savings accounts, and understanding how to manage them. • Credit and Debt Management: Understanding the principles of credit, how to use it responsibly, and strategies for managing and reducing debt. • Saving and Investing: Learning the importance of saving for the future and exploring different investment options, including stocks, bonds, and mutual funds. • Consumer Skills: Developing skills to make informed purchasing decisions, understanding consumer rights, and avoiding fraud. • Insurance and Risk Management: Understanding different types of insurance (health, auto, life, etc.) and how they help manage financial risk. • Retirement Planning: Exploring the importance of planning for retirement and understanding various retirement savings options. • Financial Decision Making: Applying critical thinking skills to make sound financial decisions and solve financial problems. Throughout the course, students will engage in practical activities, simulations, and projects to apply their knowledge and develop real-world financial skills. This course aims to prepare students for financial independence and success in their personal and professional lives.	

Online Social Sciences/Studies

Course	Descriptions	Credits
Online Geography and World History	This interdisciplinary course combines the study of geography and world history to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the world's physical and cultural landscapes and the historical events that have shaped them. Key topics include: • Geographical Concepts: Understanding the five themes of geography (location, place, human-environment interaction, movement, and region) and their application to the study of the world. • Physical Geography: Exploring the Earth's physical features, including landforms, climates, ecosystems, and natural resources. • Human Geography: Examining human populations, cultures, urbanization, and the impact of human activities on the environment. • Ancient Civilizations: Studying the development and contributions of ancient civilizations such as Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. • Medieval and Renaissance Periods: Understanding the key events, cultural achievements, and socio-political structures of the medieval and Renaissance periods. • Exploration and Colonization: Analyzing the causes and effects of exploration, colonization, and the interactions between different cultures. • Revolutions and Independence Movements: Investigating the major revolutions and independence movements that have shaped modern nations. • World Wars and Global Conflicts: Examining the causes, events, and consequences of the World Wars and other significant global conflicts. • Contemporary Issues: Exploring current global issues such as globalization, environmental challenges, and international relations.	.5

	Throughout the course, students will engage in hands-on activities, research projects, and discussions to apply their knowledge and develop critical thinking skills. This course aims to provide a well-rounded understanding of the world's geography and history, preparing students for further studies in social sciences and fostering a global perspective.	

CDLS

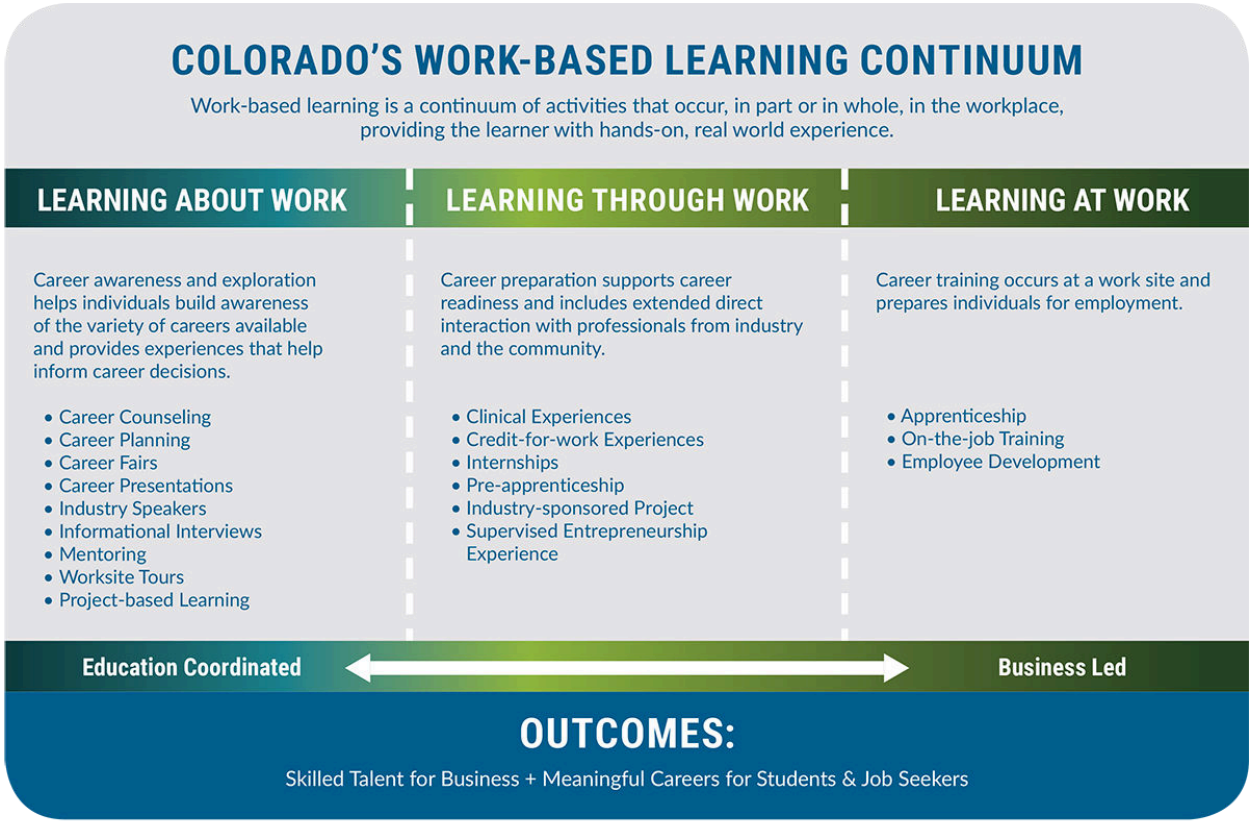
Program	Descriptions	Credits
Colorado Digital Learning Solutions	CDLS courses are affordable, high-quality, and standards-based. Students can use them for credit retrieval, advanced and CTE courses, curriculum enhancement, and/or to resolve scheduling conflicts. CDLS can supplement your local middle school and high school curriculum with a wide variety of courses designed for students in all performance ranges, from at-risk to advanced students.	.5

Work Based Learning

Opportunities can support flexible pacing, differentiated instruction, immediate interventions, and anytime, everywhere learning. Work Based Learning enables personalized learning at scale, helps foster student-centered instructional approaches, and facilitates student co-design with their teachers of how to approach meeting their learning goals. Students are able to be in brick-and-mortar buildings and maintain their other responsibilities. Work-based learning gives high school students a chance to explore careers and industries by connecting them with local employers and community members.

Internships	An internship is a professional learning experience in your field of interest. It gives you a chance to explore your career, learn new skills, and develop new ideas about how you might want that career trajectory to go. For example, you may learn how to do basic customer service skills or marketing techniques	14 hours minimum per week .5 credits for 80 hours
Apprenticeships	An apprenticeship is an educational program with a mentor who teaches you specific skills needed for a particular job. Apprenticeships are paid, and internships are not. An apprenticeship may last for one to three years, whereas an internship is for one to three months.	14 hours minimum per week .5 credits for 80 hours
Job Shadows	Job shadowing allows you to observe a true workplace environment including culture, dynamics of employees, and job expectations. For students who may have limited work experience or haven't yet been exposed to professional settings, job shadowing serves as a powerful tool for exploration and learning.	14 hours minimum per week .5 credits for 80 hours
Paid Work	ANY work for pay or profit done in the reference week. It is to include	14 hours minimum per week

	any paid work. However, little time is spent on it, so long as it is paid.	.5 credits for 80 hours
Volunteerism	The use or involvement of volunteer labor, especially in community services	14 hours minimum per week .5 credits for 80 hours



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Independent Study courses

refers to those courses in which some or all of the courses are being completed off-site, independently by a student attending a brick-and-mortar school.

Independent Study-Math	Kahn Academy Everfi Math CDLS	.5
Independent Study-English	CDLS	.5
Independent Study- Science	CDLS	.5
Independent Study- Social Studies	CDLS	.5

Blended Learning Environments can support flexible pacing, differentiated instruction, immediate interventions, and anytime, everywhere learning. Blended learning enables personalized learning at scale, helps foster student-centered instructional approaches, and facilitates student co-design with their teachers on how to approach meeting their learning goals. Students are able to be in brick-and-mortar buildings and maintain their other responsibilities.

GED

The General Educational Development (GED) program is designed for individuals who did not complete a traditional high school diploma but wish to earn an equivalent credential. The GED test is a nationally recognized assessment that measures proficiency in four core subject areas:

- Reasoning Through Language Arts – Reading comprehension, writing skills,

grammar, and the ability to analyze written material.
- Mathematical Reasoning – Problem-solving in quantitative and algebraic topics, including basic arithmetic, geometry, and algebra.
- Science – Concepts from life science, physical science, and earth and space science, with an emphasis on critical thinking and data analysis.
- Social Studies – Understanding of history, civics and government, economics, and geography.

Students who choose to study for the GED assessment are offered the online courses for preparation on assessment.