



State of California – Military Department  
California Cadet Corps

# CURRICULUM ON CITIZENSHIP

Strand C3: College & Careers

Level 11

This Strand is composed of the following components:

- A. College
- B. Military Careers
- C. Civilian Careers & Jobs



*Unlocking a door to the future*

Updated: 4 September 2018

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## A. College

### OBJECTIVES

#### **DESIRED OUTCOME (Self-Mastery) / PRACTICUM A**

*90% of Cadets understand their options and how to prepare for getting accepted to a college and obtaining a degree.*

#### **Plan of Action**

1. Name at least five different types of colleges.
2. Identify and discuss tools that can be used to determine what careers may be best suited for a person.
3. List the criteria that are important to selection of a college.
4. List the components of the college application process.
5. List the A-G Requirements that must be met in high school to qualify to attend a UC or CSU institution.

## A1. Reviewing Your College Options

Do you want to go to college? This is one of the most important questions to start asking yourself long before you graduate high school. What are the factors that go into this decision?

- What type of career are you interested in?
  - Does it require a degree? What type?
  - Will you use your college education to advance your career?
  - Can you go to college while you work?
- How good a student are you?
  - Do you have the grades to be accepted to colleges of your choice?
  - How will you perform on the SAT/ACT?
  - Do you have the potential to graduate – not just attend – college?
- How will you pay for it?
  - Tuition/fees/books etc.
  - Room and board/living expenses
  - What is your support system?
  - Have you completed the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid)?
  - Do you want the burden of having to pay off student loans after college?
  - Can you get scholarships?
  - Are you considering tuition-free schools (like the service academies)?



Can you roll right into college after high school? If not, can you set yourself up to attend college later? You might be able to start your career and then go back to school; however, this is a harder option. It's easier to go straight to college after high school and focus on one challenge at a time; however, this is sometimes not an option. If immediately attending college after high school isn't an option for you, but you'd still like to pursue higher education, look at the options to attend college later in your life.

There are different types of college

- Private Universities
- Public Universities
  - University of California (UC)
  - California State University systems (CSU)
- Community Colleges
- On-line Schools
- Military Academies
  - West Point, Annapolis, Air Force, Coast Guard, Merchant Marine
  - Private/State Academies like Norwich, New Mexico Military Institute, The Citadel
- Vocational/Technical/Career Schools offering certificates or associate degrees



College is a four-or-more-year process to get a baccalaureate degree – commonly called a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BS) degree. Most universities and academies offer a four-year degree program (referred to as a “four-year degree program” even when it takes you longer than four years to

complete), though community colleges and some other colleges offer only the first two years (an Associate degree), with options to transfer to another school to complete your baccalaureate degree.

One option to consider is to attend a community college for two years, then transfer to a university to complete your degree. This is a cheaper option that gets you the same Bachelor's degree you would receive if you attended the university for all four years.

One of the first steps you should take when considering whether to go to college is to speak with a guidance counselor at your school. They will mentor you through the process of preparing for college, applying to schools and scholarship programs, taking the SAT or ACT, and looking at how you'll fund your education.

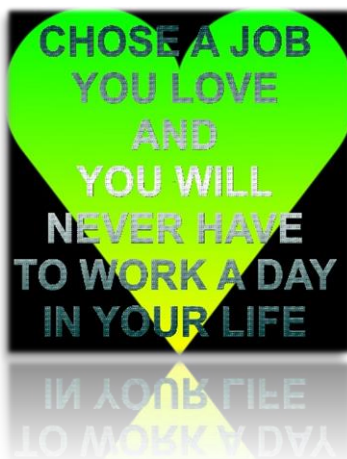
Many people argue that it's not necessary to go to college to be successful in life. Studies have shown that this opinion is growing. But the numbers don't really back up this opinion. Looking at statistics from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, college grads earn more over a lifetime, and start off earning more, than those with less than an Associate's degree.

According to the National Center for Education Statistics, "in 2015, the median salary for a college graduate between ages 25 and 34 was \$50,000. For those with only a high school diploma, it was about \$30,500. The median earnings of a young adult who did not complete high school was \$25,000."

"That's not all. The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports as of January 2017, college grads age 25-plus had a 2.5 percent unemployment rate. For high school only grads, it was 5.3 percent (and 7.7 percent for those who never received a diploma or GED). Additionally, Pew says those with Bachelor's degrees have higher job satisfaction, clearer career paths, and substantially lower rates of poverty. The statistics on that last point are particularly persuasive: in 2012, 6 percent of college grads ages 25-32 lived in poverty. For those with no college, it was a staggering 22 percent." (Sturt, 2014)

So if you're on the fence, it's important to consider all options and look at facts behind both sides of the discussion. There are many people who have been quite successful without college. But they're not in the majority. And it gets back to what career or job you want to pursue and whether you need a college degree to be successful in it.

And what type of degree do you need? Where you're heading in college may depend on the types of classes you take in high school and how well you do in them. Those who major in STEM subjects – science, technology, engineering, and math – are more employable and generally higher paid than liberal arts majors. Of course, success in a field doesn't always go back to what you did in college – it's much more likely to be a factor of how hard you work, your attitude in the workplace, and your talent.



## A2. Exploring Careers

Do you know what you want to do with your life? Some people your age already have a passion, and many don't have a clue! But don't worry, there are many resources available to you to help you figure out what path to take.

If you know what you want to do to start the period of your life when you'll be in a job or career, it's pretty easy to determine what you have to do next. You need to know what classes and tests to take in high school, what extra-curricular activities to participate in, what colleges will help you get into the career of your choice. If you can get an internship or part-time job in the bottom rungs of your chosen career field, the experience will be invaluable when you've graduated college and are looking for a job.

But what if you just don't know? Visit your counselor, look at sites on the internet that help you examine your personality traits, likes and dislikes, skills and abilities. Examine the jobs available and projections on how jobs will change in the years you'll be in the workforce.

Here are some good career test sites:

<http://www.mycareerquizzes.com/career-test>

<https://www.livecareer.com/quintessential/career-assessment>

<https://www.educations.com/career-test>

<http://assessment.com/>

<https://www.yourfreecareertest.com/>

<https://www.funeducation.com/Tests/CareerTest/Free-Career-Test.aspx>

[https://www.careerfitter.com/free\\_test/careerbuilder/test](https://www.careerfitter.com/free_test/careerbuilder/test)

Don't just take the first feedback you receive. This process may affect the rest of your life – be thorough and don't stop until you feel right about what you're hearing. As you proceed, don't be afraid to listen to your inner self if you think you made a mistake. Stopping and changing directions may be hard, but it's better than proceeding along a path to something you don't want. Your grandparents were likely to spend their life working for the same company or doing the same job. That's not the norm anymore. You're likely to switch around a lot as better opportunities arise or as you decide you're not doing what you want to do. Don't be afraid to change, but do it with eyes wide open and knowing the effects of your decisions.



*Norwich University, Northfield, VT*

### A3. Identifying Colleges

Do you know what college you want to attend? There are many factors that go into that decision! You may apply to colleges that are local, to the college your parents attended, to colleges that provide

specialized or top-level instruction in the field you want to pursue. Other than ensuring the school you're applying to is properly credentialed or will lead to where you want to go, much depends on what you want from your college experience. Do you want to attend a large university that offers everything you might want or a smaller school where you'll get a more personalized education? Is funding a factor? Can you get student aid? What type of scholarships are available?

Determine what your criteria are: what's most important?

- School type (4-year, 2-year, on-line, VOTEC (vocational/technical), etc.)
- School size
- Location
- Setting (i.e. small town or big city)
- Cost
- Reputation
- Graduation rate
- Safety
- Class Size
- Faculty Contact
- Placement Success
- Student Body
- Social Life
- Housing Options
- Realistic Chance of Being Accepted
- Other (i.e. religious affiliation, public/private, single-gender)



If you know what you want to major in, narrow your search to schools that offer the type of degree program you're looking for. Research the colleges that fit your criteria. Review college lists. Some sites that rank colleges are:

<https://www.usnews.com/best-colleges>

<http://www.ruggsrecommendations.com/> (there's a cost to this, but you get what you pay for)

<https://www.niche.com/colleges/search/best-colleges/s/california/>

<https://www.niche.com/colleges/rankings/>

Once you research the schools that seem to be a good fit, narrow your list, and visit the schools. The best way to get the right idea about a school is to take a tour, meet with current students, attend a class, read the campus newspaper, eat in the cafeteria, spend a night (or at least check out) in a dorm. Is it where you want to spend years of your life? If you can't visit, some schools offer a virtual tour of the campus (check out <https://www.livecareer.com/quintessential/teen-college>), and you should talk to people who have attended the school.

Once you have a reasonable list of schools you'd like to attend, start putting together your applications (see [Lesson A4](#)). How many schools you actually apply to depends on your situation. There are application fees and a good amount of work goes into the process. Do you have one or two 'dream schools' you'd love to attend, but may not have a very good chance at acceptance? Do you want to expend the time/resources on something that's not likely to be successful? Or do you want to take the chance that you'll get what you're wishing for? Your counselor, parent(s), or adult mentor can probably help with this decision too!



#### A4. Applying for College (Franek, 2017)

You start the process of applying for college when you enter high school. You need to maintain good grades, achieve the standardized test score you want, engage in extracurricular activities that you both enjoy and which speak well for your community participation. Once you've made the decision that you ARE going to college, and have looked into schools and identified your best-fit colleges, it's time to put together an all-star application. Here's what you need to know to get started on your college apps and stay organized:



##### College Application

- Most college applications are online, either through the Common Application or on a school's website.
- The Common App makes it easy to apply to multiple schools with just one form, but each college will have different requirements for essays and test scores. Read the application instructions for the colleges of your choice carefully. Be prepared to list basic information about yourself, your school, and your family, as well as your GPA, standardized test scores, extracurricular activities, and any awards you earned in high school. Some schools may ask you to submit a high school resume.
- If you start to fill out an application and realize you need more information from your school or parents, you will be able to save an in-progress application and return to it before submitting.
- Be mindful of application deadlines for each college you're applying to. Generally, however, early applications will need to be submitted between November 1 and November 15 the year before you expect to start your freshman year.

##### Application Fee

- Usually \$30–\$60 for U.S. applicants.
- Many schools offer fee waivers for applying online, by a certain date, or a student's circumstances.

##### High School Transcript

- You will need to request official transcripts from your high school for each college where you're applying.
- Some colleges require that transcripts be mailed directly from the high school.
- Some colleges require you to collect your transcript in a sealed envelope and submit it with any other paper application materials.
- Remember that the administrators and counselors at your high school are helping all the other seniors in your class at the same time, so be polite—and patient.
- Senior year grades still count!

##### SAT or ACT Scores

- When you take the SAT, ACT, and SAT Subject Tests, you can request that a report of your scores be sent directly to your prospective colleges. You can also decide later whether colleges see one, some, or all of your scores.
- Schedule your test with enough time to receive your scores (2–8 weeks for the ACT, about 3 weeks for the SAT). Then you can request reports for the colleges on your list. Both ACT and the College Board offer rush or priority report options for a fee.



- Confirm the test policy at every college on your list. A school may consider:
  - all test scores from all dates;
  - your highest overall score from a single test date;
  - your Superscore, in which case you'll submit all your scores and the admissions committee will consider only the highest score on each section; or
  - test scores may be completely optional.

#### Letters of Recommendation

- Most colleges require two or three letters of recommendation from high school teachers or school counselors.
- Select someone who knows you well and can speak to your strengths.
- Request your recommendations—politely—about two months prior to the application deadline
- Give your recommenders all of the information they need to complete the recommendation, whether it's a website with login information or stamped envelopes with hard copy forms. **Don't forget to say thank you!**



#### Essay: Personal Statement

- Your college essay will probably be the most time-consuming part of your application—start early.
- Use your essay as an opportunity to tell admissions counselors what makes you unique and what you can bring to a given campus community.
- The essay prompt will be provided in the application along with length guidelines (usually 300 to 500 words).
- Ask a teacher or guidance counselor for feedback on your drafts.
- Revise, proofread, and repeat!
- End with a conclusion, not just a summary.

#### Financial Aid

- Be aware that applying for admission and applying for *financial aid* are two separate processes.
- Complete and submit your FAFSA as soon after January 1 as possible.
- Check every school's financial aid policies—some will require additional forms like the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE®.
- Research student loan options thoroughly before borrowing. Paying back student loans after college can be a big financial burden for a very long time.



### A5. UC/CSU Requirements

Many cadets who attend college will go to a public school in California. The University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems offer choices of great schools at less cost for Californians than attending a private school or school in another state where you are a non-resident. Schools in these systems are:

UC

Berkeley  
 Davis  
 Irvine  
 Los Angeles  
 Merced  
 Riverside  
 San Diego  
 San Francisco  
 Santa Barbara  
 Santa Cruz

CSU

Bakersfield	Northridge
Channel Islands	Cal Poly Pomona
Chico	Sacramento
Dominguez Hills	San Bernardino
East Bay	San Diego
Fresno	San Francisco
Fullerton	San Jose
Humboldt	Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
Long Beach	San Marcos
Los Angeles	Sonoma
Maritime	Stanislaus
Monterey Bay	

**A-G Requirements:**

To be considered for admission, students must complete 15 "a-g" courses with a letter grade of C or better, with at least 11 of them prior to the last year of high school.

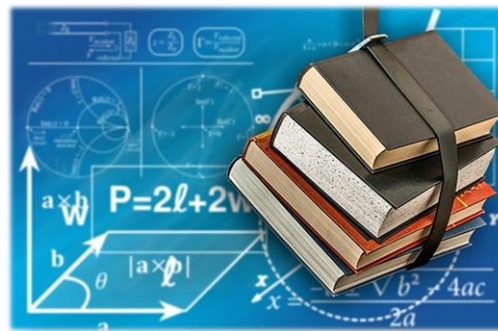
Taking approved "a-g" courses isn't the only way to satisfy these requirements. Students also may meet them by completing college courses or earning certain scores on SAT, Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate exams.

Some courses in mathematics and language other than English completed in seventh and eighth grades may be counted toward the 11 courses. Middle school courses must be comparable in content to courses offered at the high school level. Typically, middle school coursework is validated by higher-level coursework completed in high school.

For example, an intermediate algebra course completed in high school with a grade of C or higher will validate beginning algebra taken in seventh or eighth grade. Likewise, a Spanish 2 course completed with a grade of C or higher will validate Spanish 1 completed prior to high school.

Academic courses completed in the summer after 11th grade also may be used to complete the 11 courses required for admission consideration.

- A) History/Social Science
- B) English
- C) Mathematics
- D) Laboratory science
- E) Language other than English
- F) Visual and performing arts
- G) College-prep elective



**A) History****UC-approved high school courses**

Two years of history, including:

- one year of world or European history, cultures and geography (may be a single year-long course or two one-semester courses), and
- one year of U.S. history or one-half year of U.S. history and one-half year of civics or American government

**SAT Subject Test**

- U.S. History: Score of 550 satisfies one year.
- World History: Score of 540 satisfies one year.

**AP or IB examination**

- U.S. History: score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP U.S. History exam; score of 5, 6 or 7 on the IB History of the Americas HL exam
- U.S. Government: Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP Exam satisfies a half year.
- World History/Cultures/Geography: score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP exam in European History, World History or Human Geography; score of 5, 6 or 7 on the IB History HL or Geography HL exam

**College courses**

- U.S. History/Civics/American Government: grade of C or better in a transferable course of 3 or more semester (4 or more quarter) units in U.S. history, civics or American government
- World History/Cultures/Geography: grade of C or better in a transferable course of 3 or more semester (4 or more quarter) units in world history, cultures and geography

**B) English****UC-approved high school courses**

- Four years of college-preparatory English that include frequent writing, from brainstorming to final paper, as well as reading of classic and modern literature. No more than one year of ESL-type courses can be used to meet this requirement.

**SAT Subject Test**

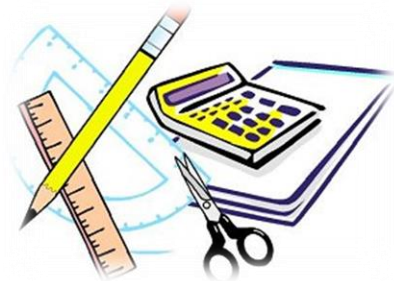
- Writing and Language (taken March 2016 or later) score of 31 satisfies the first three years of the requirement.
- An SAT Reasoning Test Writing section score of 680 or an SAT Writing and Language score of 36 satisfies the entire requirement.
- ACT with Writing
- Combined English/Writing or English Language Arts (ELA) score of 24 satisfies first three years; score of 30 satisfies entire requirement.
- SAT Subject Test
- Literature: Score of 560 satisfies first three years.

**AP or IB examination**

- Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP English Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition Exam; score of 5, 6 or 7 on the IB HL English: Literature exam (formerly IB HL English A1)

**College courses**

For each year required through the 11th grade, a grade of C or better in a course of 3 or more semester (4 or more quarter) units in English composition, literature (American or English) or foreign literature in translation. Courses used to satisfy the fourth year and/or the entire requirement must be transferable. For lower-division transfer, all courses must be transferable. Literature courses must include substantial work in composition.

**C) Mathematics****UC-approved high school courses**

Three years (four years recommended) of college-preparatory mathematics that include the topics covered in elementary and advanced algebra and two- and three-dimensional geometry. Approved integrated math courses may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement, as may math courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades if the high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.

**SAT Subject Test**

Math Level 1: Score of 570 satisfies the two years of required elementary and advanced algebra.

Math Level 2: Score of 480 satisfies the two years of required elementary and advanced algebra.

NOTE: All students must complete a geometry course or integrated math with geometry content; no standardized examination will satisfy the geometry requirement.

**AP or IB examination**

Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP Statistics Exam satisfies elementary and intermediate algebra.

Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP Calculus AB or Calculus BC Exam satisfies three years.

Score of 5, 6, or 7 on the IB Mathematics HL exam.

NOTE: All students must complete a geometry course or integrated math with geometry content; neither AP Calculus AB/BC nor IB HL Mathematics exam will satisfy the geometry requirement.

**College courses**

Grade of C or better in a non UC-transferable course of 3 semester (or 4 quarter units) in elementary algebra, geometry, or intermediate/advanced algebra can satisfy the requirement as follows:

- Elementary algebra and/or geometry each satisfy one year of the math requirement;
- Intermediate algebra satisfies the two years of algebra requirement.

Grade of C or better in a UC-transferable mathematics course of 3 semester (or 4 quarter) units that has intermediate algebra as a prerequisite satisfies the entire requirement. Freshman applicants cannot satisfy this requirement with statistics.

NOTE: All students must complete a geometry course or integrated math with geometry content; one transferable college course will not satisfy the full three-year math requirement.

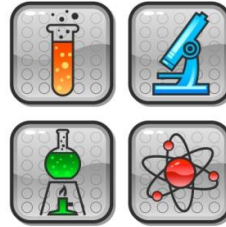
**D) Laboratory science****UC-approved high school courses**

Two years (three years recommended) of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in two of these three foundational subjects: biology, chemistry and physics. 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 may be used to fulfill this requirement. A yearlong interdisciplinary science course can meet one year of this requirement.

**SAT Subject Test**

Each test clears one year:

- Biology: Score of 540
- Chemistry: Score of 530
- Physics: Score of 530

**AP or IB examination**

Score of 3, 4 or 5 on any two AP Exams in Biology, Chemistry, Physics B or Physics C, and Environmental Science; score of 5, 6 or 7 on any two IB HL exams in Biology, Chemistry or Physics.

**College courses**

For each year of the requirement, a grade of C or better in a transferable course in a natural (physical or biological) science with at least 30 hours of laboratory (not "demonstration").

**E) Language other than English****UC-approved high school courses**

Two years (three years recommended) of the same language other than English. Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading, composition and culture. American Sign Language and classical languages, such as Latin and Greek, are acceptable. Courses taken in the seventh and eighth grades may be used to fulfill part or all of this requirement if the high school accepts them as equivalent to its own courses.

**SAT Subject Test**

The following scores satisfy the entire requirement:

- Chinese With Listening: 520
- French/French With Listening: 540
- German/German With Listening: 510
- Modern Hebrew: 470
- Italian: 520
- Japanese With Listening: 510
- Korean With Listening: 500
- Latin: 530
- Spanish/Spanish With Listening: 520



**AP or IB examination**

Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP Language or Literature Exam in Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese or Spanish; score of 5, 6 or 7 on an IB Language A2 HL exam.

**College courses**

Grade of C or better in any transferable course(s) (excluding conversation) held by the college to be equivalent to two years of high school language. Many colleges list the prerequisites for their second course in language as "Language 1 at this college or two years of high school language." In this case, Language 1 clears both years of the requirement.

**F) Visual and performing arts****UC-approved high school courses**

One yearlong course of visual and performing arts chosen from the following: dance, drama/theater, music or visual art.

**AP or IB examination**

Score of 3, 4 or 5 on the AP History of Art, Studio Art or Music Theory Exam; score of 5, 6 or 7 on any one IB HL exam in Dance, Film, Music, Theatre Arts or Visual Arts.

**College courses**

Grade of C or better in any transferable course of 3 semester (4 quarter) units that clearly falls within one of four visual/performing arts disciplines: dance, drama/theater, music or visual art.

**G) College-prep elective****UC-approved high school courses**

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).

**SAT Subject Test**

U.S. History: Score of 550

World History: Score of 540

Writing/English Compositions or Literature: Score of 560

Mathematics Level 2: Score of 520

Science (other than taken for "d" requirement): Same tests and scores as listed above under "d"

Language Other Than English, third year

- Chinese With Listening: 570
- French/French With Listening: 590
- German/German With Listening: 570
- Modern Hebrew: 500
- Italian: 570
- Japanese With Listening: 570
- Korean With Listening: 550
- Latin: 580



- Spanish/Spanish With Listening: 570

A second Language Other Than English: Same tests and scores as listed under "e".

**AP or IB examination**

Score of 3, 4 or 5 on any one AP Exam in Computer Science A, Computer Science AB, Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Human Geography, Psychology, U.S. Government or Comparative Government; score of 5, 6 or 7 on any one IB HL exam in Economics, Philosophy, Psychology, Social and Cultural Anthropology, or Computer Science.

**College courses**

Grade of C or better in one transferable course beyond those listed above as clearing any of the "a-f" requirements; or a transferable course having as a prerequisite the equivalent of two high school years in a second language; or a transferable course equivalent to those that clear the "c," "d" or "e" requirement; or a transferable course of 3 or more semester (4 or more quarter) units in history, social science, or visual or performing arts.





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