

D. Section 4: High School graduation requirements

1. Paragraph A: Total credits earned.

A) For the Standard Diploma

1) Option One:

A 12th grade student may earn a Standard Diploma from NSA by successfully completing, as a minimum, 4.0 NSA high school credits during his/her 12th grade year. However, three of these credits must be in core academic classes: English, Math, Social Studies, and Science. The student must also have met the diploma course and credit requirements for the standard diploma with his/her transfer credits. NSA allows a student to transfer into NSA up to 18 credits, so those 18 credits plus the 4 credits taken during the senior year as described in this option, would give the student the needed 22 credits that are required for the Standard Diploma. Refer to Paragraph B for more information on these course and credit requirements.

2) Option Two:

A 12th grade student may earn a Standard Diploma from NSA by enrolling as a half-time student taking and successfully earning 3.0 NSA high school credits during his/her 12th grade year. However, in this option for graduation, the student will need to have earned 14.0 total credits from NSA upon completion of his/her 12th grade studies here at NSA. The student must also have met the diploma course and credit requirements for the Standard Diploma with his/her transfer credits. Refer to Paragraph B for more information on these course and credit requirements.

B) For the Advanced Diploma

1) Option One:

A 12th grade student may earn an Advanced Diploma from NSA by enrolling in 3.0 NSA high school credits and concurrently enrolling in a junior college or university for the remaining 3.0 credits, which the student must successfully earn. These 3.0 college-level credits are defined by the following: 0.5 NSA credit for each college-level semester course. These 3.0 college-level credits are defined by the following: 0.5 NSA credit for each college-level semester course (3 hr. class minimum) passed, or the student must earn a total of 9 credit hours from the junior college per semester. With this option, 3 of the 6 credits must be from senior level core subjects like literature, science, social studies, and math. The student must also have met the diploma course and credit requirements for the advanced diploma with his/her transfer credits. Refer to Paragraph B for more information on these course and credit requirements.

- 2) **Option Two:**
A 12th grade student may earn an Advanced Diploma from NSA by enrolling as a full-time student taking and successfully earning 6.0 NSA high school credits during his/her 12th grade year. Of these 6 credits, 3 credits must be from senior high level core subjects like literature, science, social studies, and math. The student must also have met the diploma course and credit requirements for the advanced diploma with his/her transfer credits. Refer to Paragraph B for more information on these course and credit requirements.
- 3) **Option Three:**
A 12th grade student may earn an Advanced Diploma from NSA by enrolling as a half-time student taking and successfully earning 3.0 NSA high school credits during his/her 12th grade year. However, in this option for graduation, the student will need to have earned 14.0 total credits from NSA upon completion of his/her 12th grade studies here at NSA. The student must also have met the diploma course and credit requirements for the Advanced Diploma with his/her transfer credits. Refer to Paragraph B for more information on these course and credit requirements.

1. Paragraph B: Diploma requirements and types.

Students at NorthStar Academy have the opportunity to specialize in the following areas of study: Biblical Studies, Business, and Computer Science. If the student chooses not to specialize in any of the above areas, then he/she will have the option to take courses which will lead to earning either the advanced or the standard diploma.

Below are the course and credit requirements for each diploma type.

NOTE 1: An elective is any course of your choosing. In the catalogue, you will find a category of courses in the “Elective” section, but this designation is there to separate the core courses from the non-core courses. But when you are determining your schedule, remember that an elective course is really any course of your own choosing outside of the required and designated core course.

NOTE 2: All Advanced Diploma requirements which include specialization require that the student meet all the graduation requirements for an Advanced Diploma in addition to the requirements for the specialization.

NOTE 3: Minimum course completion and passing grade average requirements for graduation

All students who graduate from NorthStar Academy will have earned a full 1.0 credit in British Literature and will have passed Algebra 1 and either

Business Math or Geometry (or its equivalent or greater). Students whose GPA's do not meet the required minimum for their respective chosen diploma type may repeat courses in NorthStar Academy for the purpose of raising their final grade average in that course and thus the final graduation GPA to meet the required minimum GPA. The repeated course credit and final average will be included in the total sum of credits earned and averaged into the total GPA as if the repeated course was any other course.

NOTE 4: NSA does not give 0.5 credit to students who have completed a Driver's Education course. I can not justify giving 0.5 credit for a class that meets for 36 hours or so when other NSA and other 0.5 credit classes are based on a student studying/working for five hours per week for 18 weeks (90 hours). We at NSA realize that other institutions do grant 0.5 credit for Driver's Education, but NSA does not grant credit.

NOTE 5: The three required social studies credits must include at least one credit of USA History, either HIST101 or HIST102.

1. Graduation requirements for the **Standard Diploma**

For a student to fulfill the graduation requirements for the standard diploma, he/she must complete, as a minimum, the following number of credits:

English	4.0
Math	3.0
Science	2.0
Social Studies	3.0
P.E.	0.5
U.S. Govt	0.5
Economics	0.5
Health	0.5
Worldview	1.0
Subtotal	15.0
Electives	7.0

Total Credits: 22.0 (must have a GPA of 70.0 or greater)

2. Graduation requirements for the **Advanced Diploma:**

English	4.0	
Math	3.0	*
Science	3.0	**
Social Studies	3.0	
P.E.	0.5	
U.S. Govt	0.5	
Economics	0.5	
Health	0.5	
Worldview	1.0	
Subtotal	16.0	
Electives	8.0	***

Total Credits: 24.0 (must have a GPA of 80.0 or greater)

* must complete MATH400

** must take three of the following science courses:

- a. Physical Science
- b. Integrated Science
- c. Anatomy & Physiology
- d. Biology
- e. Chemistry
- f. Physics
- g. AP Biology
- h. AP Chemistry

*** must include 1.0 credit of a foreign language if a foreign language is offered via NorthStar Academy, but the language study credit can be a transfer credit from another school/program/placement test/etc.

3. Graduation requirements for the **Advanced Diploma**
with a specialization in **Biblical Studies**:

English	4.0	
Math	3.0	
Science	3.0	
Social Studies	3.0	
P.E.	0.5	
U.S. Govt	0.5	
Economics	0.5	
Health	0.5	
Worldview	1.0	
Subtotal	16.0	
Electives	8.0	***
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Total Credits:	24.0	

Credits must include 5 credits from the high school Bible classes listed in our school catalogue in the Electives/Christian Foundations department.

4. Graduation requirements for the **Advanced Diploma**
with a specialization in **Business**:

English	4.0	
Math	3.0	
Science	3.0	
Social Studies	3.0	
P.E.	0.5	
U.S. Govt	0.5	
Economics	0.5	
Health	0.5	
Worldview	1.0	
Subtotal	16.0	
Electives	8.0	***
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Total Credits:	24.0	

Credits must include 5 credits from the following courses:
 1. BCOM100..... 0.5 credit
 2. BCOM200..... 0.5 credit
 3. BCOM210..... 0.5 credit
 4. MATH210 1.0 credit
 5. ACCT200 0.5 credit
 6. ECON510 1.0 credit
 7. Algebra 2 1.0 credit

5. Graduation requirements for the **Advanced Diploma**
with a specialization in **Computer Science**:

English	4.0	Credits must include 5.5 credits from the following courses:
Math	3.0	
Science	3.0	
Social Studies	3.0	
P.E.	0.5	
U.S. Govt	0.5	
Economics	0.5	
Health	0.5	
Worldview	1.0	
Subtotal	16.0	
Electives	8.0	*)
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Total Credits:	24.0	

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| 1. Learning Office 03 | 0.5 credit |
| 2. Beginning Web Design | 0.5 credit |
| 3. Intern Web Design | 0.5 credit |
| 4. Intro to Comp Program... | 1.0 credit |
| 5. AP Computer Program... | 1.0 credit |
| 6. Computer Repair & Maint (ELEC200)..... | 1.0 credit |
| 7. Basic Electronics and Digital Logic | 1.0 credit |

6. Graduation requirements for the **Advanced Diploma**
with a specialization in **History**:

English	4.0	Credits must include 6 credits from the following courses:
Math	3.0	
Science	3.0	
Social Studies	5.0	
P.E.	0.5	
U.S. Govt	0.5	
Economics	0.5	
Health	0.5	
Worldview	1.0	
Subtotal	18.0	
Electives	6.0	***)
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Total Credits:	24.0	

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|------------------------------|------------|
| 1. USA History 101... | 1.0 credit |
| 2. USA History 102... | 1.0 credit |
| 3. World Geography... | 1.0 credit |
| 4. Western Civilization... | 1.0 credit |
| 5. Worldviews in Conflict... | 1.0 credit |
| 6. AP World History... | 1.0 credit |

7. Graduation requirements for the **Advanced Diploma**
with a specialization in **Microsoft Office (MOS Certification)**:

English	4.0
Math	3.0
Science	5.0
Social Studies	3.0
P.E.	0.5
U.S. Govt	0.5
Economics	0.5
Health	0.5
Worldview	1.0
Subtotal	18.0
Electives	6.0 ***

Credits must include 3.5 credits from the following courses:

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| 1. Intro to Webpage Design | 0.5 credit |
| 2. Intermediate Webpage Design | 0.5 credit |
| 3. Learning Office | 0.5 credit |
| 4. Intermediate Office... | 0.5 credit |
| 5. Advanced Word | 0.5 credit |
| 6. Advanced Excel | 0.5 credit |
| 7. Advanced PowerPoint | 0.5 credit |

Total Credits: 24.0

8. Graduation requirements for the **Advanced Diploma**
with a specialization in **Science**:

English	4.0
Math	3.0
Science	5.0
Social Studies	3.0
P.E.	0.5
U.S. Govt	0.5
Economics	0.5
Health	0.5
Worldview	1.0
Subtotal	18.0
Electives	6.0 ***

Credits must include 6.0 credits from the following courses:

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| 1. Physical Science | 1.0 credit |
| 2. Biology | 1.0 credit |
| 3. Chemistry | 1.0 credit |
| 4. Physics... | 1.0 credit |
| 5. AP Biology or AP Chemistry | 1.0 credit |
| 6. Pre-Calculus | 1.0 credit |

Total Credits: 24.0