

PCA Graduation/Diploma Requirements

To meet the needs of diverse learners and acknowledge the value of many academic pathways post-high school, PCA offers diploma options to encourage students to maximize their potential.

PCA HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA		
Subject	Required Classes by Subject Area	Minimum Credits
English	Rhetoric & Composition, Analyzing Writing, Writing in the US or Honors American Literature, and Great Works of Literature or AP Literature	4
History	Civics, World History, US History	3
Science	Biology, Chemistry, 1 additional Science course	3
Math	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II	3
Bible	Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, 2 additional Bible courses	4
Foreign Language		2
Physical Education	Met by participating in US Athletic Program	1
Fine Arts	Any Fine Arts course	1
Additional Credits	In any subject area	1
Total Credits Required		22

PCA DIPLOMA OF DISTINCTION		
Subject	Required Classes by Subject Area	Minimum Credits
English	Rhetoric & Composition, Analyzing Writing, Writing in the US or Honors American Literature, and Great Works of Literature or AP Literature	4
Math	Algebra I; Geometry, Algebra II, 1 additional Math course	4
Science	Biology; Chemistry, 2 additional Science courses	4
History	Civics, US History, World History	3
Bible	Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, 2 additional Bible courses	4
Foreign Language	3 or more of the same language *	3
Physical Education	Met by participating in US Athletic Program	1
Fine Arts	Any Fine Arts course	1
2 Additional Credits	In any subject area	2
Total Credits Required		26
<p>A Diploma of Distinction will be awarded to students who attend PCA for no less than six semesters and earn a total of 26 credits, as indicated above, with a cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.50 or above as calculated after Semester I of senior year.</p> <p>*International students are required to take 2 years of Spanish or French and one additional course in a subject of their choice.</p>		

PCA STEM DIPLOMA		
Subject	Required Classes by Subject Area	Minimum Credits
English	Rhetoric & Composition, Analyzing Writing, Writing in the US or Honors American Literature, and Great Works of Literature or AP Literature	4
Math	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, Pre-Calculus	4
Science	Biology, Chemistry, Physics, one additional Science course	4
History	Civics, US History, World History	3
Bible	Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, 2 additional Bible courses	4
Foreign Language	2 or more of the same language	2
Technology	Software Engineering, 1 additional technology course	2
Physical Education	Met by participating in US Athletic Program	1
Fine Arts	Any Fine Arts course	1
<i>AP Level requirement</i>	<i>Students must earn at least one of their credits in Chemistry, Biology, Physics or Calculus at the AP level</i>	
Total Credits Required		25
A STEM Diploma will be awarded to students who attend PCA for no less than six semesters and earn a total of 26 credits, as indicated above, with a cumulative unweighted GPA of 3.0 or above as calculated after Semester I of senior year.		

Course descriptions are published in the Course Catalog, available in the Guidance Office and on the school's website.

Expected Course Load

Students at PCA attend for two semesters each school year. The minimum number of credit hours required to graduate from PCA is 22. Students are required to attempt at least 5 credits per year to be considered full-time students.

AP Courses

Students should carefully consider the number of AP courses in which they enroll. Due to the homework load, additional reading and course demands, we suggest students take no more than 3 AP course during an academic year. If a student desires to enroll in more than 3 AP courses they are required to fill out a waiver which will require parent approval and an academic meeting.