

Fast Facts for Forward-looking Freshpersons

1. **AC** (abbreviation for *Accelerated*): a more difficult version of an academic class (example: AC Geometry (see *intensive* below))
2. **AP** (abbreviation for *Advanced Placement*): a more difficult version of an academic class, usually in eleventh or twelfth grades (example: AP US History)
3. **CR class** (abbreviation for *Community Resources*): an individualized community-based or college level class for which you receive high school credit, arranged with your high school counselor
4. **Community student**: a student selected in the lottery for Community. (No one is considered a *Community* student until after the lottery results are known and an offer has been accepted.)
5. **Elective**: a class you choose (elect) to take, not a graduation *requirement* (example: foreign language)
6. **Forum**: Community's version of Ann Arbor Open's Advisory, meets as a regular class
7. **GPA**: abbreviation for Grade Point Average): average of all grades earned in all classes (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, E=0)
8. **Graduation Requirements**: 16.5 *required classes* + 5.5 *elective classes* = 22 credits/units (although most colleges/universities require more)
9. **Half-credit/unit**: a semester (1/2 year, at Community, Huron, and Pioneer) or a trimester (1/3 year at Skyline) class (assuming you pass) is worth a half-credit/unit (a class taken for two semesters or two trimesters is worth a whole credit/unit)
10. **Huron student**: a student who lives in the Huron attendance zone or uses the *Sibling Enrollment Option* to choose Huron
11. **Intensive**: a more difficult version of an academic class (Huron and Skyline offer intensive versions of English 9; the decision is made once you start ninth grade (see AC above))
12. **Magnet Programs**: special programs on specific topics at Skyline (Business/Marketing, Information Technology, Communication/Public Policy/Media, Design Technology/Environmental Planning, and Health/Medicine). Ninth graders will be introduced to *Magnet Programs* during regular ninth grade classes and can apply at the end of ninth grade. However, attendance at Skyline does **not** guarantee a spot in a *Magnet Program*.
13. **Math classes**: Because there are several options, consult with Adam for a recommendation as to what is best for you.
14. **Music classes**: Because there are several options in both vocal and instrumental music, you will have to consult with Ann Arbor Open's music teachers if you want to take a class beyond the introductory ninth grade classes. (Auditions are required for advanced classes.)
15. **Neighborhood**: a section or part of Skyline where students will have all required classes. The plan is for the students in a neighborhood (9-12 grades) to have the same counselor, the same assistant principal, and many of the same teachers.

16. **Open Enrollment Option:** Approximately 125 spots at Skyline open to Huron or Pioneer students. A lottery is held if there are more than 125 applicants for these spots.
17. **Pioneer student:** a student who lives in the Pioneer attendance zone or uses the Sibling Enrollment Option to choose Pioneer.
18. **Prerequisite:** an earlier, more basic class required before a later, more advanced class can be taken (examples: algebra is a *prerequisite* for geometry)
19. **Requirement/Required class:** a class you must take (and pass) to graduate.
20. **Sequence:** a typical order in which classes are taken in a specific subject matter (examples: Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2; Spanish 2AC, Spanish 3AC, Spanish 4AC)
21. **Semester:** half of a school year. Semester classes meet approximately 54 minutes/day for approximately 18 weeks at Huron and Pioneer (Block scheduling in use at Community). A whole year class lasts two semesters, the entire school year.
22. **Seventh hour:** at Huron and Pioneer, an optional additional hour, but with limited class offerings and limited transportation. Most Huron and Pioneer students take classes first through sixth hours. (Community and Skyline do **not** offer seventh hour.)
23. **Sibling Enrollment Option:** Students who live in the Skyline attendance zone but have an older sibling in tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grades may choose to attend their older sibling's school. (They would be allowed to revert to Skyline later.)
24. **Skyline Student:** a student who lives in the Skyline attendance zone OR one who applies, is selected, and accepts one of approximately 125 spots available through the Open Enrollment Option. Skyline students selected through the Open Enrollment Option would be allowed to revert to Huron or Pioneer later.
25. **Skyline Time:** Skyline's version of Ann Arbor Open's Advisory meets once weekly in addition to regular classes (Other classes are shortened on the day *Skyline Time* meets.)
26. **Split enrollment:** students who are part-time at Community and the other part at Huron, Pioneer, or Skyline (arranged in last summer or early fall with high school counselors, requires commuting, but there are shuttle buses). Splitting between Community and Skyline must be done for the entire year because of the issue of semesters v. trimesters.
27. **Trimester:** a third of a school year. Trimester classes meet approximately 72 minutes/day for approximately 12 weeks (at Skyline only. *Important:* a year class lasts two trimesters of 2/3 of the school year.

Ninth Grade Plan (excerpt from Four-year Plan)

Directions: Planning your ninth grade is the first and most important part of your middle school work in planning your high school career. I have included the names of specific classes where there are no choices. Sample plans are included for Huron, Pioneer, and Skyline. Remember, no one is considered a *Community* student or a *Skyline Open Enrollment Option* student until after the lottery results are announced and acceptances are made. This is the information that will be required for your class selection forms due in February.

Huron/Pioneer

First Semester

1. English: English 9
2. Social Studies: World History & Geography
3. Science: Biology
4. Math: _____
5. Elective: _____
6. Elective: _____
7. OPTIONAL: _____

Second Semester

1. English: English 9
2. Social Studies: World History & Geography
3. Science: Biology
4. Math: _____
5. Elective: _____
6. Elective: _____
7. OPTIONAL: _____

Skyline

First Trimester

1. English: English 9
2. Social Studies: World History & Geography
3. Accelerated Integrated Science (blend of physical/biological)
4. Elective: _____
5. Elective: _____

Second Trimester

1. English: English 9
2. Math: _____
3. Accelerated Integrated Science (blend of physical/biological)
4. Elective: _____
5. Elective: _____

Third Trimester

1. Social Studies: World History & Geography
2. Math: _____
3. Accelerated Integrated Science (blend of physical/biological)
4. Elective: _____
5. Elective: _____

*When you arrive at Huron or Skyline, in the first few weeks of English 9 you will choose either the standard or the intensive class. Intensive class will require more reading, more writing, or more responsibility of some sort. *Intensive* will be noted on your grade record.

**At Skyline, since a year's class is completed in two trimesters, you can either take more electives or more required classes, depending on what's being offered that trimester. That can allow you to move ahead more quickly in a subject or to repeat a class if you did not do well.

Graduation Requirements

Below are listed the State of Michigan's high school graduation requirements. As allowed under law, they have been augmented by the Ann Arbor Public Schools to include an extra half credit/unit of Physical Education.

Required Classes:

English (4 credits)

Mathematics (4 credits, including introductory algebra, geometry, intermediate algebra, and a fourth class to be taken in twelfth grade)

Science (3 credits, including biology, chemistry OR physics, and a third class)

Social Studies (3 credits, including world history/geography, US history geography, 0.5 US government, 0.5 economics)

Physical Education (1 credit, including 0.5 Personal Fitness and one other 0.5 class)

Health (0.5 credits)

Visual/Performing Arts (1 credit)

On-line learning experience*

*While the on-line learning experience does not have to be a separate class, the specific ways in which this requirement can be met have not been specified by the State yet.

Total required = 16.5 credits

Total elective = 5.5 credits

Total graduation = 22.0 credits