

Dare to Soar



PINNACLE

CLASSICAL ACADEMY

The Mission of Pinnacle Classical Academy is to provide all students with a premier college preparatory education built on the foundation of the Core Knowledge Sequence, emphases of STEM courses and 21st Century Skills, good citizenship and classical education in collaboration with committed parents, inspiring educators and motivated students.

Goals:

1. Look at the graduation requirements our students will face
2. Discuss opportunities students will have a PCA
3. Discuss grades, GPA, and promotion





GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

NC Graduation Requirements

Core Academic Areas

- English
 - 4, Eng I – Eng IV
- Math
 - 4, Math I, II, III, an advanced math
- Science
 - 3, physical science, Biology, Earth & Environmental
- Social Studies
 - 4, World, Civics, Economics and Personal Finance, American History

Electives Etc.

- Health & PE
 - 1 credit
 - certification in CPR
- Electives
 - 6 credits
 - 2 of CTE, Arts, World Languages
 - 4 strongly recommended from
 - CTE
 - JROTC
 - Arts
 - Any other subject areas

PCA Graduation Requirements

Academic Area	Class of 2023	Class of 2024 and beyond
<i>English</i>	4	4
<i>Math</i>	4	4
<i>Science</i>	3	3
<i>Social Studies</i>	4	4
<i>Health & PE</i>	1	1
<i>World Languages</i>	2	2
<i>Electives including Logic and Rhetoric</i>	9	10
<i>Total</i>	27	28

Appropriate Courses

Academic Area	Appropriate Courses
<p>English (4 Credits)</p>	<p>English I, II, III, IV (or English I, II and appropriate AP courses)</p>
<p>Math (4 Credits)</p>	<p>Math I, II, III, plus a 4th Math. <u>It is strongly recommended that a math course be taken every year.</u> (or Math I, II, III, plus appropriate AP and/or CCC courses, or PCA courses)</p>
<p>Science (3 Credits)</p>	<p>Earth/Environmental, Biology, plus a physical science, a fourth science is highly recommended. <u>It is strongly recommended that a science course be taken every year.</u> (or appropriate combination of AP and CCC courses)</p>
<p>Social Studies (4 Credits)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy • Economics and Personal Finance • American History • World History <p>(or appropriate combination of AP and CCC courses)</p>
<p>World Languages (2 Credits)</p>	<p>Latin I and Latin II are required; Latin III Honors is highly recommended</p>
<p>Health / PE (1 Credit)</p>	<p>Physical Education and Health I Students must also complete CPR certification</p>
<p>General Electives (9-10 Credits)</p>	<p>Logic and Rhetoric will be required to fulfill the Classical studies in the mission statement. As deemed appropriate under NC Graduation Requirements</p>

Differences?

- The PCA requirements reflect our commitment to being a college preparatory school.

Although the state requires a designated number of courses and credits for students to graduate, local school districts may require additional courses and credits.

On top of the extra course and credit requirements, some districts and schools may require students to successfully complete a graduation project or other assignment to earn a high school diploma.



Meeting the Core

- Students will be required to take a course each year in each of the following:
 - English → 4
 - Math → 4
 - Science → 3
 - Social Studies → 4
- This puts PCA students ahead of the academic curve when viewed in the simplest terms of number of courses



CCC/CCP Requirements

CCC requires that students meet eligibility requirements for the Career and College Promise (CCP) Program in order to take their courses.

- 1. Students must have EITHER an unweighted GPA of 2.8**
- 2. OR a qualifying score on a designated placement test.**

More information on eligibility can be found on the CCC website at the link below. Administrators will meet with parents as needed to determine final pathway selection. Students who do not meet the eligibility requirements for CCP will be placed in the Traditional Pathway.

<https://www.clevelandcc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CCP-Testing-Benchmarks.pdf>



Decision-Making

- Please consider your/your student's:
 - developmental level/academic maturity
 - time management and organization skills
 - unique academic strengths by subject/discipline
 - tolerance for reading/writing on a college level
- Dual enrollment courses through CCP in 11th and 12 grade provide transferable college credit for “C” or better
 - carry same GPA weight as AP

Electives



ELECTIVE COURSES

Electives for the 2023-24 school year

ELECTIVES: Select four elective classes and number them 1 through 4 with **1 being the elective you want most and 4 being the elective class you want least.** In 9th grade 6 classes will be core or required classes. Most students will have 2 elective courses based on preferences and class availability. Teacher approval may be required.

World Language:

- ____ Spanish I
- ____ French I

Arts:

- ____ Visual Art I
- ____ Band I
- ____ Band II
- ____ Concert Choir

Advanced Placement Courses:

- ____ AP Government ____
- ____ AP Earth and Environmental
Science ____
- ____ AP Biology ____
- ____ AP Computer Science ____

Other Electives:

- ____ Microsoft Word
- ____ Web Design Honors
- ____ Yearbook ____
- ____ Journalism/Communications
- ____ Computer Science Honors
- ____ Anatomy and Physiology Honors
- ____ Curriculum and Instruction ____
- ____ American Political Thought Honors
- ____ Animal Behavior Honors
- ____ Photography in Science Honors



GRADES AND GPA

HS Grading Scale

Pinnacle will utilize a 10-point grading scale in all high school courses. Please see the chart on the next slide for information about how a student's GPA will be calculated. All core academic courses at Pinnacle will carry the Honors designation at minimum unless they are in the Traditional pathway. Certain elective courses may also carry the Honors designation if the nature of the course indicates that Honors weighting is appropriate.

Grade Point Average

GPA Scale (Unweighted)

A: 90-100 4.0

B: 80- 89 3.0

C: 70-79 2.0

D: 60-69 1.0

F: 0-59 - No GPA points are earned

Honors classes add 0.5 point

AP, CCC and any other College level courses classes add 1.0 point

Promotion

Students must meet the following standards in order to be promoted from one grade to the next during high school:

- **Freshman to Sophomore** - Successfully complete 7 units including each of the four core academic disciplines.
- **Sophomore to Junior** - Successfully complete 14 units including two courses in each of the four core academic disciplines.
- **Junior to Senior** - Successfully complete 21 units including three courses in each of the four academic disciplines
- **Senior to Graduate** – Successfully complete 28 units including four courses in each of the four academic areas plus any additional graduation requirements & competency standards noted above. Seniors will take a full class load during their senior year.



Thank you!

If you have any questions about high school
or the class selection process, please feel
free to contact the school

704-740-4035