

Sylmar High School

“Building on Excellence”



Curriculum Handbook

2006-2007

SYLMAR HIGH SCHOOL

Telephone Number (818) 367-1971

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Principal | Ms. Jan E. Lyons |
| Assistant Principal | Ms. Kay Burr |
| Assistant Principal | Mr. Casey Browne |
| Assistant Principal | Mr. Harold Boger |
| Assistant Principal | Ms. Karen Waligun |
| Assistant Principal | Mr. Victor Rodriguez |
| School Improvement Facilitator | Mr. Christopher Perdigao |
| Required Learning Administrator | Mr. Ken Barker |

| <u>Counselors</u> | <u>Extension</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
|--------------------------|-------------------------|

| | |
|--|-----|
| Ms. Carrie Peres | 325 |
| Ms. Veronica Reyes | 323 |
| Mr. Jeff Dellisanti | 356 |
| Ms. Garcia-Jimenez | 380 |
| Mr. Derek Martin | 333 |
| Ms. Sue Mayhew | 324 |
| Ms. Leslie McGee | 315 |
| Ms. Erin Spring | 321 |
| Mr. Bob Thomson | 343 |
| Ms. Debbie Steinert Magnet School Coordinator | 356 |
| Mr. Bruce Towar College & Financial Aid Advisor | 378 |
| Mr. James Patterson Career Advisor/Work Experience | 355 |
| Ms. Nancy Martin Career Technical Education Advisor | 364 |

Sylmar High School - General Information and Expected Schoolwide Learning Results (E.S.L.R.'S)

The information in this booklet is important as it will assist you in planning a successful high school program. It is the student's responsibility to know the requirements for a high school diploma and the various options available to complete those requirements. Please study the information in this brochure with great care, and use it as a reference during your high school career.

Graduation Requirements and Grade Level Status

- The unit requirement for graduation is 230 credits. These credits must be earned in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12.

 - A student's grade level is determined by the number of credits that he/she has earned. The following explains the credit requirement for grade level status:
 - Grade 10 - a minimum of 55 credits
 - Grade 11 - a minimum of 110 credits
 - Grade 12 - a minimum of 170 credits

 - In addition to completing 230 credits of work, students must satisfy specific requirements. It is the student's responsibility to know that they have completed the courses required for graduation. These requirements are explained in this handbook, so please read it carefully.
-

Our Expected Schoolwide Learning Results, or E.S.L.R.'S., list what our students are expected to be able to do by the time they graduate from Sylmar High School. These are:

Effective Communicators who:

- express complex ideas through reading, writing, speaking, and listening
- utilize computer-based resources for research and production

Critical Thinkers who:

- develop plans to achieve self-initiated personal, academic, and career goals
- identify and utilize resources independently
- locate, analyze, and integrate information
- apply complex problem-solving to real-life and academic challenges

Constructive Social Participants who:

- exhibit self-discipline and accept individual and group responsibility
- demonstrate sensitivity in interpersonal, social, and multicultural relationships
- work cooperatively with subordinates, peers, and authority
- contribute time, energy, and talent to improving the community

Multifaceted Individuals who:

- enjoy, observe, evaluate, and comment on the arts
- recognize the elements of good health
- make informed life decisions firmly based on ethical standards

All ninth graders will be able to apply to one of three Small Learning Communities. These special communities are called Houses. The three different Houses from which our 9th graders can choose are listed below:

| HOUSE | TYPE OF PROFESSION | REQUIRED NINTH GRADE ELECTIVES |
|------------------------|--|---|
| Communications | The “helping professions” where you help others | Foreign language (either Spanish or French) and a visual/performing art class |
| Science and Technology | The “scientific and technical professions” where you provide specialized skills or knowledge | Integrated Science and Introduction to Computers |
| Creativity | The “technical arts professions” where you work with machines and equipment | Integrated Science and a specific applied technology course (either Foods, Floriculture, Agriculture, Drafting, or Wood Shop) |

For grades 10-12, students can choose from one of seven different Small Learning Communities, as listed below:

Multilingual Teacher Academy

The Future Teacher Academy is a three-year program designed to prepare students to enter the field of education as professionals with bilingual abilities.

Health Services Academy

The Health/ Wellness Academy is a three-year program that prepares students to enter into a health-related career.

Humanitas Academy

The Humanitas Academy is a three-year program that offers a sequence of coursework focusing on thematic instructional units that are taught in an integrated and exciting way.

Business Technology Academy

The Business Technology Academy is a three-year program designed to prepare students for the business world.

Law and Government Academy

The Law and Government Academy is a three-year program designed to prepare students for careers in the government and law sectors.

Performing Arts Academy

The Performing Arts Academy is a three-year program designed for students interested in Music, Drama, Cinema, and Dance.

Career Technical Education Academy

The Career Technical Education Academy integrates academics and vocational studies into a unified curriculum. It enhances the relevance of vocational educational programs to the work place.

Special Programs

In addition to Academies, Sylmar High School also offers a **Math/Science Technology Magnet School**. The Magnet School is a program for students interested in Math and Science. Technology is used in all academic classes. Students take an honors/college prep course of study and **MUST** take both Math and Science classes each year. If you are interested in learning more about the Magnet School, drop by the Magnet Office for more information. You must apply using the "Choices" brochure that is given to all Los Angeles Unified students in December. The deadline for returning the application is usually in the middle of January for the following September.

Furthermore, Sylmar High School has a wide variety of Honors and Advanced Placement courses, all of which aim to provide a high-level academic program to serve the educational needs of highly able learners. These classes are for students who are highly motivated, have high academic ability, and/or have been identified as gifted. The course work is rigorous and requires higher level critical thinking skills.

A variety of off-campus programs are available to qualified and interested students.

Options (Concurrent enrollment)

Students who are behind in credits or need to repeat subjects which they have failed, may wish to enroll in classes offered through the Community Adult School. Students need to see their counselors for further information concerning classes that are available on the Sylmar High campus or at various Adult School sites after school and/or evening.

Regional Occupational Programs (ROP) and Regional Occupational Center Programs (ROC)

There are two basic types of off-campus practical job training programs. One type is offered during the regular school day and is located on another high school campus. A second type includes special occupational skills classes offered after school and on Saturdays. Many of these classes are offered on business and industrial sites as well as at other school sites.

Sylmar High is close to North Valley Occupational Center. This center trains both adults and students from the local high schools during the day, evenings, and on weekends. Students may enroll in training programs not offered on our own campus.

Students interested in ROP/ROC classes need to see the Career Advisor in the Career Center (Room 1) before the end of the semester to make plans for the next semester. Several of these courses begin in the summer, with opportunities for continued study the following year. Classes are available in the following areas: Agriculture/Environment, Arts/Entertainment / Automotive, Aviation Business, Health Careers, Home Economics, Industrial Education, and Consumer/Public Service.

College Classes

Students may earn college credit (and, in some special cases, high school credit) through special programs offered by the community colleges. Students may sign up in the College Center.

Work Experience

Work Experience education is a form of practical and applied vocational guidance. The basic skills for job entry and a lifetime of learning are taught in the schools. However, the attitudes involved in employer-employee relationships and those needed in working with other people can be learned better in a job situation. This educational program illustrates the cooperative endeavors of school and community in preparing high school students to become productive citizens. Only junior and senior students may enroll in Work Experience. Students interested in Work Experience should see the Career Advisor in the Career Center (Room 1). Plans for Work Experience credit must be completed and on file in the Career Center by the end of the fourth week of each semester. Students must work a minimum number of hours to receive credit. Students must also attend a weekly one-hour class and related instruction.

College and University Planning

Students who plan to attend a four-year college or university should take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) in October of their eleventh grade year. It is our recommendation that these eleventh grade students take the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or American College Test (ACT) in May or June and repeat it in October or November of the senior year.

The college bound student should be seriously considering his/her choice of college or university beginning with the ninth grade year. It is important to work closely with the College Counselor to receive detailed information on admissions requirements and policies, scholarships and financial aid. A staff of peer counselors, all of whom assist the College Counselor, offer invaluable assistance to students interested in college and university information. To complete college entrance requirements in a timely manner, students should obtain a check-list from the College Office and use it as a reminder to meet essential "deadlines."

Students may, with the approval of the counselor, enroll in classes at one of the local community colleges while enrolled at Sylmar High School. Students must have their own transportation, and must pay required fees. Tuition is paid from a special fund, but books, supplies, parking, and any other fees are the responsibility of the students.

Planning the High School Program

Counselors meet with students in groups and individually to assist them in determining course selections. Students need to study course offerings carefully and make wise choices.

Included in this guide are the following pages which should help students in selecting correct courses to satisfy graduation requirements:

- (a) Senior High School Graduation Requirements
- (b) Four Year Educational Program
- (c) Graduation Check List
- (d) Course Offering for the Current School Year
- (e) College and University Requirements

The senior high school diploma indicates that the recipient has been found worthy in character and citizenship and has satisfactorily completed a required curriculum. This curriculum provides that each student complete the state, district, and local school requirements.

Honors at Graduation: Superior quality work performed by the student is recognized by means of seals on the senior high school diploma. The seals indicate two degrees of distinction based on grade point averages obtained for work completed in grades 9-12, inclusive of all subjects. The two degrees of distinction are "High Honors" (3.6 to 4.0 average) and "Honors" (3.0 to 3.59 average)

California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE): Students must pass both components (English/Language Arts and Mathematics) of this examination in order to receive a Sylmar High School diploma. The minimum score needed to pass each part is 350.

Credits: A student must earn a minimum of 230 credits to graduate.

Basic Subject Requirements:

In addition to 70 elective credits, students must pass all classes that compose the Core of Common Learning (160 credits):

- **English (40 credits):** English 9AB, English 10AB, American Literature, Contemporary Composition, 12th Grade English elective, Senior Composition
- **Social Science (30 credits):** World History and Geography AB, US History AB, US Government, Economics
- **Laboratory Science (20 credits):** Biological Science AB and Chemistry AB/Physics AB
- **Mathematics (20 credits):** Four math classes from the following choices: Algebra 1AB, Algebra 2AB, Geometry AB, Math Analysis, AP Calculus AB
- **Visual and Performing Arts (10 credits):** Two classes in Music, Art, Dance, Cinema, or Drama
- **Applied Technology (10 credits):** Two classes in Agriculture, Business Education, Industrial Education, Home Economics, Computers, or Special Occupation Courses (ROP/ROC)
- **Health (5 credits)**
- **Life Skills for the 21st Century (5 credits)**
- **Physical Education (20 credits)**

Typical Four Year Educational Program

Name of student

| No. Of Classes | Grade 9 | | Grade 10 | | Grade 11 | | Grade 12 | |
|----------------|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|
| | Fall | Spring | Fall | Spring | Fall | Spring | Fall | Spring |
| 1 | Eng 9A | Eng 9B | Eng10A | Eng10B | Am Lit | Con Comp | Sr. Comp | Eng Elect |
| 2 | Health | Life Skills | Wld Hist A | Wld Hist B | US Hist A | US Hist B | US Govt | Economic s |
| | *Math A | *Math B | *Math A | *Math B | *Math A | *Math B | *Math A | *Math B |
| 4 | Integrated Science AB | | Biological Science AB | | Physical Science AB | | SLC Elective | |
| 5 | PE | | PE | | SLC Elective | | | |
| 6 | **Visual or Performing Art | | **Applied Technology | | SLC Elective | | SLC Elective | |
| Credits | 30/30 | 30/60 | 30/90 | 30/120 | 30/150 | 30/180 | 30/210 | 30/240 |

Total credits for graduation-----230

* Algebra 1AB and Geometry AB will satisfy the Math requirement.

** Course may be taken any time in grades 9-12.

In the matrix below, fill out your educational program:

| No. Of Classes | Grade 9 | | Grade 10 | | Grade 11 | | Grade 12 | |
|----------------|---------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| | Fall | Spring | Fall | Spring | Fall | Spring | Fall | Spring |
| 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 2 | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | | | | | |
| 4 | | | | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | |
| Credits | 30/30 | 30/60 | 30/90 | 30/120 | 30/150 | 30/180 | 30/210 | 30/240 |

ESL Program - Programa de Inglés Como Segundo Idioma

Students in the ESL program follow a basic pattern established by the Department of Bilingual Education. Core courses in each ESL level may be taken for one or two semesters determined by student needs, abilities, and teacher recommendations. After students reach an acceptable level of English, they may enroll in sheltered English content Courses and/or regular courses.

Los estudiantes llevan un programa básico establecido por el Departamento de Educación Bilingüe. Las materias esenciales en cada nivel de inglés pueden tomarse en uno o dos semestres. Esto se determina de acuerdo con lo que necesita el estudiante, sus habilidades, y las recomendaciones de sus maestros. Después de que los estudiantes hayan llegado a cierto nivel en inglés, ellos se pueden inscribir en cursos de contenido académico simplificado y/o en cursos regulares.

Core Courses - Materias Esenciales

The core courses are ESL I AB (double period), ESL 2AB (double periods), ESL 3, and ESL 4. *Las materias esenciales son ESL IAB (doble período), ESL 2AB (doble período), ESL 3, y ESL 4.*

Content Courses - Materias de Contenido Académico

The following courses, designed for ESL students, are in the sheltered English program:

Las materias que siguen son diseñadas para los estudiantes de ESL, y están en el programa de inglés simplificado:

English

English 9

English 10

Contemporary Composition

American Literature

Expository Composition

English Elective

Social Science

U. S. History AB

World History

Government/Economics

Mathematics

Algebra 1AB

Algebra 2AB

Geometry AB

Science

Biology AB

Advanced Physical Science AB

Other

Health

Education & Career Planning

Students need to consult with their counselor for information on which sheltered English electives are available to fulfill Fine Art and Technical Art graduation requirements.

Los estudiantes necesitan consultar con su consejero(a) sobre cuales clases de inglés simplificado son disponibles para cumplir el requisito de Educación Artística y Educación Tecnológica.

We recommend that students bring in a copy of their junior high records from their native country for evaluation.

Se recomienda que los estudiantes traigan una copia de su certificado de estudios de secundaria de su país para que este documento se pueda evaluar.

Course Offerings

Agriculture and Environmental Education (TA)

Introduction to Agriculture AB
Landscape Design, Construction and Maintenance AB 10-12
Floral Occupations 1AB, 2AB, 3AB
(May be taken one or two periods)
*Introduction to Agriculture and Metals I AB, 2AB, 3AB

Art (FA)

*Art Production Senior High AB
Ceramics 1AB, 2AB
Digital Imaging AB
Drawing AB
Art History and Analysis
Painting 1AB, 2AB*
Sculpture 1 AB
*AP Studio Art 2-Dimension
Printmaking AB
Photography AB

Business Education

Computer Prog. 1AB, 2AB, 3AB
Information Processing
Introduction to Computers
Accounting and Advanced Acct
Typing
Business Law

Life Skills for 21st Century

Life Skills

English

Ninth Grade

Honors English 9AB
English 9AB
Strategic Literacy 1AB/2AB
English Language Skills 1AB/2AB

Tenth Grade

Honors English 10AB
English 10 AB

Eleventh Grade

Honors Contemporary Composition
Contemporary Composition
Honors American Literature
American Literature
AP English Language

Twelfth Grade

*AP English Literature AB
Honors Advanced Composition
Expository Composition

English Electives

Writing Seminar
Drama AB
English Literature

Speech I AB

Theater Arts Workshop AB
Modern Literature
Play Production
Humanities

Foreign Language

French I AB, 2AB, 3AB
Spanish I AB, 2AB, 3AB
Spanish for Spanish Spkrs 1AB, 2AB
*AP Spanish Language AB
*AP Spanish Literature AB

Health Education

Heath

Home Economics

**Careers with Children AB
Foods and Nutrition
Independent Living

Industrial Education

Auto Mechanics 1AB, 2AB, 3AB
Technical Drafting, 1AB
Wood 1AB, 2AB, 3AB

Mathematics

Algebra 1AB, 2AB
Geometry AB
Math Analysis AB
*AP Calculus AB

Music

*Beginning Band
*Advanced Band
Beginning Instruments
Chorus
*Jazz Ensemble
Keyboard 1AB
Music History, Literature, and Analysis
*Choir
Guitar AB

Science

Biological Science:

Honors Biology AB
Biology AB
Physiology AB
*AP Biology
*AP Environmental Science
Marine Biology AB
Integrated/Coordinated Science 1AB

Physical Science:

*AP Chemistry AB
Chemistry AB
Honors Chemistry AB
*AP Physics AB
Physics AB
*Honors Physics AB

Social Science

World History & Geography AB
*AP World History AB
*AP American History AB
US History AB
*AP US Govt/Honors Economics
Principles American Democracy
Economics
AP Macroeconomics
Psychology (Academy)
Child Psychology (Academy)

Physical Education

Adapted Physical Education
Aerobics

Beginning Tennis
*Body Dynamics
Drill Team
*Off Season Baseball (F)
*Off Season Basketball (S)
*Off Season Football (S)
*Off Season Softball (F)
Physical Education (General)
Body Shaping

Interscholastic Athletics

To be eligible, students must have completed a minimum of 20 credits and earned a "C" grade point average (2.00) or better on their 10 week progress report and final report card.

Fall

Basketball (Boys)-V, JV, B, C
Basketball (Girls) - V
Cross Country
Football - V, JV
Volleyball (Girls)-V, JV
Soccer (Boys & Girls)
Tennis (Girls)
Cheerleading (Try-out basis)

Spring

Baseball - V, JV
Golf
Softball - V, JV
Swimming-V, JV
Track (Boys)
Track (Girls)
Tennis (Boys)
Volleyball (Boys)
Basketball (F/S
Girls)

Other

*Leadership (Limited to two semesters)
*Library Practice (Limited to two semesters)
*School Service (Limited to two semesters)
*Peer Counseling
*School Yearbook AB
*Tutoring Service AB
*Work Experience (Limited to four semesters)
*Special Occupation Courses (See Advisor)
*Decathlon

* Approval of teacher Required

** Double Period

College and University Entrance Requirements

A sound college education will pay dividends throughout life; therefore, selecting the best college to meet the student's needs is one of the most important decisions made and deserves careful consideration.

Admission Tests:

Almost every four-year college requires an SAT or ACT for admission. See a peer counselor about the differences between the two. Applications and test date information are available in the College Center. It is recommended that you take the test at the end of the junior year and again in the fall of the senior year.

The state of California has developed a Master Plan for public higher education which provides opportunities for its residents in three college/university systems:

- **University of California (UC);**
- **California State University (CSU); and**
- **Community Colleges.**

The university unit system, which governs admission policies, is based on the following formula:
One unit = 10 high school credits; one-half unit = 5 high school credits.

University of California System

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| University of California, Berkeley | University of California, San Diego |
| University of California, Davis | University of California, Santa Barbara |
| University of California, Irvine | University of California, Santa Cruz |
| University of California, Los Angeles | University of California, San Francisco |
| University of California, Riverside | |

Cal State University System

| | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| CSU, Bakersfield | CSU, Long Beach | San Diego State Univ. |
| CSU, Chico | CSU, Los Angeles | San Francisco State Univ. |
| CSU, Dominguez, Hills | CSU, Northridge | San Jose State Univ. |
| CSU, Fresno | Cal Poly, Pomona | Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo |
| CSU, Fullerton | CSU, Sacramento | CSU, San Marcos |
| CSU, Hayward | CSU, San Bernardino | Sonoma State Univ. |
| CSU, Channel Islands | Maritime Academy | CSU, Stanislaus |
| Humboldt State Univ. | CSU, Monterey Bay | |

UC/CSU General Requirements

Students must complete a minimum of fifteen high school units in grades 9-12 in academic or college-preparatory classes. Of these fifteen academic units, at least seven must be taken during the last two years of high school (11th and 12th grades). All candidates must fill all of the A to G requirements without exception.

Specific Course Requirements (A to G Requirements)

- (A) History/Social Science (two units) - Two years of history/social science to include: one year of U.S. History or one half year of U.S. History and one half year of Civics or American Government; and 2) one year of world history, cultures, and geography.
- (B) English (four units) - Four years of college-preparatory English Composition and Literature.
- (C) Mathematics (three units) - Elementary Algebra, Geometry, Intermediate Algebra, Integrated Math 2 and 3, or higher math. Courses taken in the 8th and 9th grades are accepted.
- (D) Laboratory science (two units) - Two courses in Laboratory Science selected from biology, chemistry and physics. (Three units are recommended.)
- (E) *Foreign language (two units) - Two-year course in one language. Courses taken in the 8th and 9th grades are accepted. (Three units are recommended.)
- (F) Visual and Performing Arts-(one unit)
- (G) College-preparatory electives (one unit) – This one unit should be chosen from the following: History, English, Advanced Mathematics, Laboratory Science, Foreign Language, Social Science, and Visual & Performing Arts. These courses must be from the list of courses certified to meet the admission requirements of the University of California.

*Students whose second language is English may complete the Foreign Language requirement with a satisfactory examination in languages.

The University of California and California State University encourages students to take demanding advanced academic courses. Admission is determined by your GPA in the required A-G courses, and satisfactory SAT or ACT test scores. NOTE: Since many majors and campuses are impacted, you need much more than the minimum academic preparation and test scores for admission.

Los Angeles Community Colleges

The five community colleges listed below are the ones usually attended by Sylmar High graduates:

- Los Angeles Mission College
- Los Angeles Trade-Technical College
- Los Angeles Pierce College
- Los Angeles Valley College
- College of the Canyons

Admission Requirements:

Any high school graduate or person 18 years of age or older who may benefit from further education is eligible for admission to a California Community College.

The community colleges are two-year colleges where students may concentrate on programs at the freshman and sophomore level and then transfer to a four-year school. The community college also offers vocational training programs where students may earn certificates and/or an Associate of Arts degree in a specific field.

Independent Private Universities and Colleges

Some of the private colleges/universities in California are:

California Institute of Technology
Claremont Colleges:
Claremont McKenna College
Harvey Mudd College
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Scripps College
Loyola Marymount University

Northrop University
Occidental College
Pepperdine University
Stanford University
University of Southern California (USC)
Woodbury University

Admissions and subject requirements vary widely among private universities and colleges. Most colleges require academic preparation similar to the University of California requirements. Students should check college catalogs for specific requirements. Most private colleges base admissions on curriculum and community activities as well as GPA'S. They also give preference to those students who have completed AP and academically enriched programs.

Sylmar High School College Preparatory Courses

The following courses are accepted by both the UC and CSU systems to fulfill the admission requirements:

English

Ninth Grade

H English 9AB
English 9AB

Tenth Grade

H English 10AB
English 10AB

Eleventh Grade

H Contemporary Composition
Contemporary Composition
H American Literature
American Literature
AP English Language

Twelfth Grade

AP English Literature
Honors Advanced Composition
Expository Composition

English Electives

Humanities
Writing Seminar
Drama AB
Honors English Literature
Speech 1AB, 2AB
Theater Arts Wkshp AB
Modern Literature

Foreign Language

French I AB, 2AB, 3AB
AP Spanish AB
AP Spanish Literature
Spanish 1AB, 2AB, 3AB
Spanish for Spanish Spkr I AB, 2AB

Mathematics

Algebra 1AB, 2AB
Geometry AB
Trigonometry/Math Analysis A
AP Calculus AB

Science (Laboratory)

Biological Science

H Biology AB
Biology AB
AP Biology

Physiology AB

AP Environmental Science
Integrated/Coordinated Science

Physical Science

Chemistry AB
AP Chemistry
AP Physics
Physics AB

Social Science

H Wld History & Geography
World History & Geography
AP World History
AP American history AB
U.S. History AB
AP U.S. Government
U.S. Government
Psychology (Academy)
Economics
AP Macroeconomics

Visual & Performing Arts

Drawing AB
Painting 1AB, 2AB
Ceramics 1AB, 2AB
Sculpture 1AB, 2AB
Art History And Analysis AB
Printmaking AB
Photography AB
Digital Imaging AB
Advanced Band AB
Jazz Ensemble AB
Keyboard AB
Music History, Literature, and Analysis AB
Choir AB
Chorus AB
Guitar AB
Beginning Dance, Choreography, and Production
Drama AB

