

**Utica Community Schools  
Michigan Merit Graduation Requirements**

Subject Area	Description	Personal Curriculum Grades 10 – 12	Modifications
English Language Arts 4 credits	<p>Aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the Department and approved by the State Board of Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• English 9 or Honors English 9</li> <li>• English 10 or Honors English 10</li> <li>• English 11 or AP English Language &amp; Composition</li> <li>• English 12 or AP English Literature &amp; Composition</li> <li>• EL English Level 1, 2, 3, or 4</li> </ul>	No Option for Personal Curriculum	AP Seminar may replace the English 11 or English 12 requirement if AP Seminar is taught by an English Certified teacher.
Mathematics 4 credits  <a href="#">UCS Math Pathways Document</a>	<p>Aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the Department and approved by the State Board of Education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Algebra I</li> <li>•Geometry</li> <li>•Algebra II</li> <li>•One additional math or math-related credit in the final year of high school</li> </ul>	<p><b>Personal Curriculum Math Options</b> <i>(see below)</i></p> <p>Note: Must align with Educational Development Plan</p>	No Modification
Science 3 credits	<p>Aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the Department and approved by the State Board of Education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Biology</li> <li>•Chemistry or Physics</li> <li>•1 additional Science credit</li> </ul>	No Option for Personal Curriculum	No Modification
Social Studies 3 credits	<p>Aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the Department and approved by the State Board of Education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•.5 Civics</li> <li>•.5 Economics</li> <li>•U.S. History and Geography</li> <li>•World History and Geography</li> </ul>	<p><b>All students:</b> Complete 2 credits in social studies, including civics.</p> <p><b>Personal Curriculum Options:</b> One additional credit in English Language arts, mathematics, science or in a language other than English OR Complete a formal Career Technical Education program (see Note V.)</p> <p>Note: Must align with Educational Development Plan</p>	No Modification

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Health and Physical Education 1 credit	Aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the Department and approved by the State Board of Education.	<b>Personal Curriculum Options:</b> One additional credit in English Language arts, mathematics, science or in a language other than English OR Complete a formal Career Technical Education program (see Note V.)  Note: Must align with Educational Development Plan	Physical Education credit may be awarded through a flex option for students who participate in district approved extracurricular athletics or other district approved extracurricular physical activity
Visual, Performing, Applied Arts, CTE 1 credit	Aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the Department and approved by the State Board of Education.  One credit must be in the area of Visual, Performing or Applied Arts	<b>Personal Curriculum Options:</b> One additional credit in English Language arts, mathematics, science or in a language other than English OR Complete a formal Career Technical Education program (see Note V.)  Note: Must align with Educational Development Plan	No Modification
Online Learning Experience	Online course or learning experience OR Online experience is incorporated into each of the required credits	No Option for Personal Curriculum	No Modification
World Languages 2 credits  UCS World Language Pathways Document	Aligned with subject area content expectations developed by the Department and approved by the State Board of Education.  Students must complete two credits in grades K – 12 that are grade appropriate in a language other than English or course work or other learning experiences that are substantially equivalent to 2 credits.	No Option for Personal Curriculum	Students may fulfill 1.0 credit with a formal Career Technical Education program or curriculum (see Note V.) OR Visual, Performing and Applied Arts course, plus four additional elective credits
Michigan Merit Exam	Students must participate		Defined by the State of Michigan applicable to Special Education students
Available Endorsements	UCS Seal of Global Language  Multi UCS Seal of Global Language proficiency pathways exist. <a href="#">Click here for qualifying information</a>	STEM Endorsement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 math credits</li> <li>• 6 science credits</li> <li>• 0.5 technology activities credits</li> <li>• 0.5 engineering activities credits</li> </ul>	AP Capstone Diploma Score of 3 or higher on the following exams: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AP Seminar Exam</li> <li>• AP Research Exam</li> <li>• 4 additional AP Exams</li> </ul>

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### NOTES:

I. To meet minimum graduation requirements, a total of 22 high school credits must be earned one-half credit is granted for each semester course.

II. Special Education students: The Individualized Education Plan (IEP) shall identify the appropriate course or courses of study and identify the supports, curricular requirements, or in a Personal Curriculum, and meet the requirements for a high school diploma.

III. Each student is expected to successfully achieve a full high school program each year.

IV. It is the responsibility of students to meet with school staff to ensure course work meets the basic requirements of the college and/or career of their choice.

V. A personal curriculum may be requested after completion of grade 9.

VI. Career Technical Education program or curriculum consists of the following requirements:

- A coherent sequence of courses so that students gain academic, technical, and work behavior skills.
- Instruction that includes classroom, laboratory, work-based learning, and leadership opportunities
- Instruction that is supervised, directed, or coordinated by an appropriately certificated CTE teacher.
- Consists of standards approved by the State Board.
- Received approval from MDE/OCTE through an application process.
- Successful completion is defined as completed coursework covering all program standards, and/or take any required technical assessment.

VII. If a pupil successfully completes 1 or more of the high school credits required before entering high school, the pupil shall be given high school credit for that credit.

For the class of 2022 and beyond:

- Students who complete any of the 3 required math courses prior to grades 9 – 12 must still earn 3 math credits in grades 9 – 12 and must successfully complete 1 credit in a math course or in a math related course during their senior year. More information can be obtained from your child's school counselor.

For the class of 2023 thru 2026:

- Students who received credit (CR) for a high school course taken in grade 7 and/or grade 8, may choose to keep the CR or change the CR to the earned letter grade and the grade will count towards the GPA and class ranking determination. This request will need to be submitted to the building principal by the end of the 2022-2023 school year.
- A parent or guardian must submit the [UCS CR Removal to Letter Grade Form](#) to the building principal to have the CR changed to the earned letter grade

For the class of 2027:

- Students who received credit (CR) for a high school course taken in grade 7, may choose to keep the CR or change the CR to the earned letter grade and the grade will count towards the GPA and class ranking determination. This request will need to be submitted using the [UCS CR Removal to Letter Grade Form](#) to the building principal by the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

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- Students taking a high school course in 8th grade will earn a letter grade for the course according to the UCS grading policy for high school students. The high school course will be placed on the high school transcript and the grade will count towards the GPA and class ranking.
- Any student taking a high school course prior to grade 9 can have the course removed from their transcript and may retake the course if the following criteria is met. A parent or guardian must submit the [UCS Credit Removed Request Form](#) to the building principal prior to the first day of the student starting grade 9, requesting the course to be removed from the student's high school transcript and for the student to retake the course. Credits that are removed will act as if the course was never taken.

Beginning with the classes of 2027 and 2028:

- Students taking a high school course prior to grade 9 will earn a letter grade for the course according to the UCS grading policy for high school students. The high school course will be placed on the high school transcript and the grade will count towards the GPA and class ranking determination.
- Any student taking a high school course prior to grade 9 can have the course removed from their transcript and may retake the course if the following criteria is met. A parent or guardian must submit the [UCS Credit Removed Request Form](#) to the building principal prior to the first day of the student starting grade 9, requesting the course to be removed from the student's high school transcript and for the student to retake the course. Credits that are removed will act as if the course was never taken.

VIII. In accordance with MCL 380.1278b each student shall be provided the following opportunities:

- Develop an Educational Development Plan (EDP) during grade 7 and shall have his or her EDP reviewed by school personnel during grades 8 – 12.
- Develop a Talent Portfolio. A talent portfolio shall be developed and revised throughout the implementation of a pupil's EDP.
- Develop and use a resume and talent portfolio. In addition, know how to request and use a letter of reference and school record.

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**Personal Curriculum Math Options**

A student earns Algebra II credit when he or she has demonstrated proficiency in the required content expectations for Algebra II. Students may take Algebra II over 1.5 years for 1.5 credits without requesting a Personal Curriculum.

A change of Algebra II with a PC requires students to complete a minimum of two-and-a-half (2.5) math credits including Algebra I, Geometry, and on-half (0.5) credit of Algebra II, statistics, or functions and data analysis, or the equivalent of these credit requirements in an integrated math or other program, such as Career and Technical Education (CTE). Once this requirement has been met, a student must earn a minimum of one (1) additional math or math-related credit.

	1 Credit	1 Credit	1 Credit	1 Credit	Total Credits
Traditional Model (High School Expectations = 4 Credits)					
Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) without PC	Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry (no required sequence)			Math or math-related credit	4
MMC without PC allowing Algebra II to be taken over 1.5 years for 1.5 credits	Algebra I, and Geometry (no required sequence)		Algebra II	Math or math related credit	4
PC Request with successful completion of 2.5 credits	Algebra I, and Geometry (no required sequence)		0.5 credit Algebra II	Math or math related credit	3.5
PC Request with successful completion of 2.5 credits	Algebra I, and Geometry (no required sequence)		0.5 credit Probability and Statistics	Math or math related credit	3.5
PC Request with successful completion of 2.5 credits	Algebra I, and Geometry (no required sequence)		Marketing II 0.5 credit will count toward Probability and Statistics	Math or math related credit	3.5