

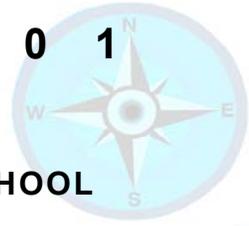
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**N A V I G A T I O N 1 0 1**

**GRADE: 7                      LESSON: 10**

**THEME: PLANNING FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL**

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**LESSON GOALS:**

- Help students learn about different postsecondary options.
- Discuss high school course requirements.

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:**

- What will I do after high school?
- How can I plan?

**MATERIALS NEEDED:**

- **Postsecondary Information Handout** (*located on the next page of this lesson plan*)
- **High School Course Requirements** (*located on the last page of this lesson plan*)

**CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES:**

- 1. Introduce postsecondary options.** Distribute the **Postsecondary Information Handout** and review it with your students. The most important points for them to remember from this handout are that: (a) nearly every career requires some type of education after high school; and (b) there are many different postsecondary options – something for everyone. *(5-10 minutes)*
- 2. Discuss educational needs for different careers.** Next talk about the careers students are interested in. What type of postsecondary education do different careers require? How can students find out what they need to do? You might want to help students by sharing your expertise or use an on-line resource (your lead advisor will have ideas) to help. *(5-10 minutes)*
- 3. Finally, discuss how students can prepare for postsecondary education.** Distribute the **High School Course Requirements** handout. Explain that the minimum needed to graduate from high school is not enough to prepare students for most postsecondary options. It's important that they do MORE than the minimum. *(10-15 minutes)*

**STUDENT PRODUCTS:**

Nothing to write during this lesson. Students should be encouraged to share the handouts with their parents.



# POSTSECONDARY INFORMATION



## WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO AFTER HIGH SCHOOL?

What do you dream about doing? No matter what you want to do, you'll probably need to stay in school after you graduate from high school. That's because nearly every job today requires "postsecondary" (after high school) education.

There are many different options for postsecondary education... it just depends on what you want to do!

**APPRENTICESHIP.** Do you want to earn a paycheck while you learn a job? Would you like to work one-on-one with someone who's experienced? In an apprenticeship, you learn a highly skilled job (in manufacturing or high tech, health care, public safety, cooking, or construction) by working with an expert. Apprenticeships usually last two to four years. They combine on-the-job training with classroom work. Apprentices earn a paycheck the entire time.

**COMMUNITY OR TECHNICAL COLLEGE (TWO-YEAR, ASSOCIATE DEGREE).** Many students go to community or technical college to earn a career certificate or to get a two-year (Associate) degree. You can earn an Associate degree to transfer into a four-year university and continue on toward a four-year degree. Or you can go straight into the workplace after earning your Associate degree. Careers include Cosmetology, Computer-aided Drafting and Design, Diesel and Heavy Equipment Tech, Medical Office Clerk, or Culinary Arts.

**FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY (FOUR-YEAR, BACHELOR'S DEGREE).** Students who need more education usually attend a four-year college or university. You can earn a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. You might continue on to graduate or professional school. Or you might use your degree to go right into the workplace. You can earn a Bachelor's degree in nearly any subject imaginable, from Asian Studies to Chemistry or Engineering.

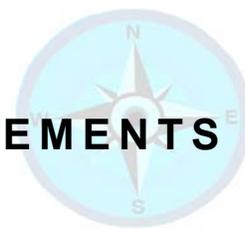
**MASTER'S DEGREE.** A Master's degree lets you move directly into a management-level career in a specialized field. A Master's degree usually requires at least two years of study beyond a Bachelor's degree. You can study for a Master's degree in Business (called an MBA) or in many other fields.

**DOCTORATE DEGREE.** A Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.), Medical Doctor (M.D.), Juris Doctor (lawyer, or J.D.) degree usually requires at least three years of school after college and sometimes many more. A Doctorate degree allows the holder to practice a highly skilled profession.

**MILITARY.** Some students join the military after high school. You can join the military right away, or you can join the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) while you are in college and then be commissioned as an officer after college graduation. The military offers many different career and training opportunities... meaning that you still need to decide what you want to do before you join.



# HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS



## WHAT COURSES DO YOU NEED IN HIGH SCHOOL?

*What courses will you need to take in high school to succeed in college or in a career? Here's what's required to graduate, as well as what school counselors suggest you take (in addition to the minimum) to prepare yourself for the future.*

### LANGUAGE ARTS

**OSPI requires: 3 credits**                      **Counselors suggest: 4 credits**

Being able to read well, write fluently, and communicate clearly is absolutely essential for college or for any job. Language arts (English) classes will help you do that and develop an appreciation for literature.

### MATHEMATICS

**OSPI requires: 2 credits**                      **Counselors suggest: 3-4 credits**

A good understanding of math is needed in our high-tech, 21<sup>st</sup> century world. You should aim to take math every year. Math courses include Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pre-calculus, and Calculus.

### HISTORY and GEOGRAPHY

**OSPI requires: 2.5 credits**                      **Counselors suggest: 2-3 credits**

Social studies courses help you learn more about the world around us. These courses include Geography, Government, Civics, World History, World Cultures, US History, and Political Science.

### SCIENCE

**OSPI requires: 2 credits**                      **Counselors suggest: 3-4 credits**

Science is important for any career path, as the study of science teaches you to observe carefully and use logical reasoning to answer questions. Courses include Chemistry, Geology, Biology, and Physics.

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

**OSPI requires: 0 credits**                      **Counselors suggest: 2-4 credits**

Most colleges require at least two years of study of a foreign language (such as Japanese, French, Spanish, Chinese, or Latin). Understanding the cultures and language of other countries is essential today.

### VISUAL and PERFORMING ARTS

**OSPI requires: 1 credit**                      **Counselors suggest: 1-2 credits**

Studying the arts helps you learn to express yourself creatively and find new ways to interpret your surroundings. Arts courses include Art, Music, Photography, Drama, and Dance.

### ELECTIVES

**OSPI requires:**  
**5.5 credits in general Electives**  
**2 credits in Health & Fitness**  
**1 credit in Occupational Education**

The elective courses you take will be determined in part by the career pathway you select when you are in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Your high school advisor will help you develop a **Four-year Plan** that tracks the courses you plan to take each year.

**In each of these areas, register for the most advanced class level you can manage.**

