

# California Academic Decathlon

Incorporated from the United States Academic Decathlon

## EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC ACCEPTED/UNACCEPTED COURSES ACADEMIC COURSE GRADES FOR GPA

<b>Conversion:</b>		<b>Additional Conversions:</b>	
Honor	3.75 - 4.00 GPA	A = 4	90 - 100 = 4
Scholastic	3.00 - 3.74 GPA	B = 3	80 - 89 = 3
Varsity	0.00 - 2.99 GPA	C = 2	70 - 79 = 2
		D = 1	60 - 69 = 1
			0 - 59 = 0

### Acceptable Courses

- Academic Business Courses
- Accounting
- Basic Business Economics
- Business Concepts
- Business Management
- Computer Programming Language<sup>5</sup>
- Computer Science<sup>5</sup>
- Consumer Economics
- Intro to Business
- Principles of Business
- Agri-Business
- Agri-Science (Theory)
- Art Appreciation
- Art History
- Basic Communications
- Business Law
- Computer Literacy
- Creative Writing
- Creative Writing, Advanced
- Criminal Law (Justice)
- Debate
- Drama Comp (English)
- Earth Science (Theory)
- Economics
- Engineering Design (Theory)
- English/Language Arts
- Foreign Language Arts
- Foreign Language
- Foreign Language: American Sign Language
- Forensics<sup>3</sup>
- Geography<sup>4</sup>
- Group Problem Solving (Communications)
- History of Motion Pictures<sup>6</sup>
- Humanities
- Journalism
- Marketing (Theory)
- Mathematics
- Music Appreciation
- Music History
- Music Theory
- Oral Communications
- Principles of Technology (Science)
- Psychology
- Science (Theory)
- Social Studies (Contemporary Issues)
- Sociology
- Speech
- Statistics (Math)
- Theory of Knowledge<sup>2</sup>
- Writing

### Unacceptable Courses

(How to, skills-type; non-book learning; Lab/hands-on courses)

- AVID courses<sup>1</sup>
- Agriculture
- Architectural Drawing
- Art (Ceramics, Drawing, Multi-Cultural)
- Astronomy (unless a Science credit)
- Automotive
- AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination)
- Band/Chorus
- Child Development
- Computer: (Information Processing, Keyboarding, Lab, Micro Applications, Software Courses)
- Current Events (unless Social Studies)
- Drafting
- Drama
- Driver's Education
- Electronics
- Engineering Graphics
- Ethic Law (Theology)
- Film
- Graphics
- Health Education
- Home Economics
- Horticulture
- Independent Study
- Industry
- Jewelry
- Mechanical Drawing
- Media Studies
- Medical Ethics
- Metal Procedures
- Morality and Issues
- Multi-Media (Communications)
- Newspaper
- School Newspaper
- Personal Law
- Photography
- Physical Education
- Printmaking
- Record Keeping
- Religion
- ROTC
- Shop
- Shorthand/Speed Writing
- Stage Craft
- Theater Arts
- Typing
- Vocational Education Courses
- Word Processing
- Yearbook

<sup>1</sup> AVID was declined by USAD on 7.27.11. AVID is an elective course that teaches students how to study, read the content, take notes, and manage time. Students participate in collaborative study groups or tutorials led by tutors who use skillful questioning to bring student to a higher level of understanding. AVID courses are a general elective course that helps students with study skills related to their specific academic courses. Therefore, AVID should not be counted towards GPA Verification because it is considered more of a study skills course.

- <sup>2</sup> Theory of Knowledge was approved by USAD on 8.31.11 because it appears to focus more than 50% of the time on understanding ideas, concepts, and theories of this discipline (knowledge). The course also uses texts and resources for papers, quizzes, etc. which appears to have more objective assessment rather than being more performance-based/subjective assessments.
- <sup>3</sup> Forensics was approved by USAD on 8.25.11 because the course description includes objective assessment and also covers a lot of speech, debate, public speaking, which are also listed as acceptable courses.
- <sup>4</sup> Geography was approved by USAD on 11.28.11 because the course is often tied together with Social Studies and/or History courses, which are acceptable. It was also accepted based upon the syllabus which supported this course being more theory based. Many of World Geography curriculum USAD came across in their research involved a textbook (such as *World Geography Today (Holt, Rinehart, Winston)* ) and assessed with tests on chapter tests, U.S. states and capitals test, and a world map test where students are required to know many of the world's countries, capitals, and locations.
- <sup>5</sup> Computer Science was approved by USAD on 1.4.12 because the course syllabus, course title and course description reviewed. Also, USAD does list Computer Programming Language (previously listed as Programming Language). Both courses appear to be aligned with a programming course as opposed to a computer lab course that involves keyboarding, word processing, or software (which USAD does not accept).
- <sup>6</sup> History of Motion Picture was approved by USAD on 1.9.12 because the course syllabus reviewed shows the curriculum focusses more than 50% of the time on concepts related to film history through outside readings, includes exams, screening quizzes and a final exam. This course does not include a text book.

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