



January 21, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Welcome to the 2011-2012 registration process! This year, Danbury High School (DHS) is going green with the Course of Study Guide. Please visit www.danbury.k12.ct.us, click “Danbury High School”, and then select the Course of Study Guide from the “School Counseling” tab. If you do not have internet access, please contact your child’s guidance counselor.

Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, students who successfully complete one year-long course will be awarded 1 credit. Students who successfully complete a semester course will be awarded .5 credit. Students who have been enrolled at DHS prior to the new credit granting system will have their existing credits automatically translated into the new system. Students in the classes of 2012, 2013, & 2014 will need 21 credits to graduate from Danbury High School.

Please review the table below, which outlines both graduation requirements and general university requirements. Students planning to attend college should look into the specific requirements of schools that they are interested in.

DHS Requirements	# of Credits in Old System	# of Credits in New System	State/University Recommendations
8 SEMESTERS OF ENGLISH (9 TH & 10 TH Required)	20 CREDITS	4 CREDITS	4 YEARS OF ENGLISH
5 SEMESTERS OF SCIENCE (Biology Required)	12.5 CREDITS	2.5 CREDITS	3 YEARS OF LAB SCIENCE
6 SEMESTERS OF MATH	15 CREDITS	3 CREDITS	4 YEARS OF MATH
6 SEMESTERS OF SOCIAL STUDIES (U.S. History & Civics Required)	15 CREDITS	3 CREDITS	2 YEARS OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
2 SEMESTERS OF COMMUNICATIONS, FINE ARTS, BUSINESS, FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE OR TECHNOLOGY	5 CREDITS	1 CREDIT	1 YEAR OF FINE ARTS 2 YEARS OF WORLD LANGUAGE
2 SEMESTERS OF P. E.	5 CREDITS	1 CREDIT	
1 SEMESTER OF HEALTH	2.5 CREDITS	.5 CREDIT	
12 SEMESTERS OF ELECTIVES (1 Semester of Computer Literacy Required)	30 CREDITS	6 CREDITS	
TOTAL	105 CREDITS	21 CREDITS	

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Prior to registering, your student will receive a transcript and current report card in Advisory. These tools, along with current teacher and guidance counselor recommendations, should be used to select the most appropriate courses and levels. College Preparatory courses are the core course of study for all students at DHS. While it is recognized that not all students will attend college, these courses will ensure that all students, if they so choose, are thoroughly prepared for the rigors of college. College Preparatory courses will also ensure that all students are prepared to be productive citizens in the global community in which we live. Honors courses present students with the opportunity to learn the same content and skills in the College Preparatory courses, but at a more rigorous level. Students will be exposed to a wider breadth and deeper depth of study at the Honors level. Students in Honors courses can expect a heavier work load than those students enrolled in College Preparatory courses. Advanced Placement (AP) courses are extremely rigorous and provide students with the opportunity to learn a college curriculum and potentially earn college credit for receiving a qualifying score on the required AP examination. If you are unsure which class or level to choose, please feel free to discuss student options with current teachers and/or a guidance counselor prior to your registration date.

The registration sheet will be distributed to students in classes between February 7th – 15th and should be completed by the parent/guardian and student and returned to school by February 22nd. Registration will happen February 22nd – March 1st. When completing the sheet, please make sure to select a course from each of the major subject areas and the appropriate number of electives. Please understand that while we will do our best to meet the needs of all students, that this is not always possible. Please list two additional alternative elective choices in the event that we are not able to accommodate the first choice of students.

English as Second Language (ESL) Students

In addition to the required courses for graduation, there are many other courses that your son or daughter can choose from, based on his/her interests. The ESL counselor will help students in choosing the courses for the school year 2011-2012. The students will take English every day and work to progress through the four proficiency levels: ESL 1, ESL 2, ESL 3, and Transitional English. Other classes will be taught by teachers who have special training in working with students whose second language is English.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's guidance counselor with any questions. Thank you for your time and attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Robert Rossi, Ed. D.
Principal