

Understanding Georgia's Graduation Requirements**9th Grade Academic Advisement Activity****Estimated time: 30 Minutes****Georgia Teachers-As-Advisors Framework****Goal 9-2.2 - Recognize and attain performance levels necessary to reach educational and career goals.**

a. Identify and recognize the importance of educational achievement and performance to the attainment of personal and career goals.

Goal 9-2.3 –Identify and participate in ongoing, lifelong-learning experiences to enhance the ability to perform effectively and work in a diverse and changing world

a. Recognize the importance of being an independent learner and taking responsibility for personal training.

Objectives:

- Become familiar with the graduation requirements for Georgia

Materials:

- “Georgia’s Graduation Requirements” Handout
- Number of credits a student should earn to move from 9th grade to 10th grade, 10th to 11th and 11th to 12th

Activity:

1. *Greet students:* Good Morning, welcome to Advisement. *Ask students:* How many of you are planning to graduate from high school? *Allow time for discussion.* *If any students do not raise their hands, take the time to discuss the importance of education in today’s job market. The bottom line is---the more education and training one has the more income potential they have and the less likely they are to be unemployed. (Give the names of those did not raise their hand to your graduation coach as a referral). This is not the time to change their minds. It is important for students to vent their feelings and for your advisement committee to consider their concerns as a group. After the discussion, tell students:* Thanks for your honest comments. For now, let’s discuss more about what you need to do to graduate from high school. It’s the job of your teachers, counselors, family and advisors to help you get to graduation. However, you must understand that you play the most important part in getting to graduation. This process is like going on a journey and you must want to be the captain of your ship, decide the direction, select your crew, and have a clear destination in mind. Remember if you don’t know where you are going, you may get lost! This plan will take time and effort!
2. *Distribute the handout. Tell students* to refer to State of Georgia Graduation Requirements on their handout. *Say:* Although every student will have a personal plan called a program of study, called a plan of study on GAcollege411, locate in the HIGH SCHOOL PLANNING section, you will need to take responsibility for your plan. This will include knowing the current graduation rule----- there are specific classes you MUST take and pass in order to graduate. We will review this information just to make sure you are aware. *Review this information with your students. Tell them* to feel free to ask questions. *Say:* If I don’t know the answer, I will direct you to the person who can help you.” (most likely a counselor, graduation coach, or department chair). Now answer the questions at the bottom of your handout. Have students raise their hands if they are having difficulty answering the questions.

Help them or you might consider answering them as a class. BE SURE you know the number of credits students will need to be promoted to the 10th and so forth.

3. Dismiss students with, “Bon Voyage!” If students do not know what this means, explain it means, ‘Have a good journey’ an educational journey!

GRADUATION RULE for students entering the 9th grade in the fall of 2008

Current GEORGIA Graduation Rule for student entering the 9 th grade in fall of 2008-2009 Areas of Study:	Credits or Units
I. English/Language Arts	4
II. Math	4
III. *Science	4
IV. Social Studies	3
V. **Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE), and/or Modern Language/Latin, and/or Fine Arts	3
VI. Health & Physical Education	1
VII. Electives (4 units)	4
TOTAL UNITS	23
* 4 th Science may be used to meet both the required science and required elective in CTAE sequence of courses (V) **Student <u>must</u> complete 3 units in a career pathway to complete CTAE pathway and take end of pathway assessment; Student <u>must</u> complete 2 years of the same foreign language for admissions to Georgia Board of Regents colleges/universities.	

In the GACollege411 (www.GACollege411.org) program under the HIGH SCHOOL PLANNING tab, to YOUR PLAN OF STUDY, you can plan your high school program of study using this chart to help you meet your specific course requirements for graduation. Each class is usually worth either ½ credits or 1 credit depending on your local system schedule. You can find more information about your graduation requirements in this section under “Georgia Graduation Requirements.” Share this information with your parents.

Answer the following questions:

How many credits will you need to take in Language Arts to graduate? ___ Math ___ Social Studies ___ Science ___ Health & PE ___ Electives ___ CTAE, and/or Fine Arts and/or Modern Language/Latin.

How many credits will you earn this year (9th)? _____

Do you know how many credits you will need to be promoted to the 10th grade? _____