

## Understanding Credits and Graduation Requirements at RMHS

### Typical 9<sup>th</sup> grade schedule

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Period 1	<b>Health and Wellness</b> (5 credits)	<b>Intro to Business</b> (5 credits)	<b>World History</b> (5 credits)	<b>World History</b> (5 credits)
Period 2	<b>Lobo 101</b> (5 credits)	<b>2D design</b> (5 credits)	<b>Algebra 1</b> (5 credits)	<b>Algebra 1</b> (5 credits)
Period 3	<b>English 9</b> (5 credits)	<b>English 9</b> (5 credits)	<b>PE  1</b> (5 credits)	<b>Woods 1</b> (5 credits)
Period 4	<b>Biology</b> (5 credits)	<b>Biology</b> (5 credits)	<b>Earth Science</b> (5 credits)	<b>Earth Science</b> (5 credits)

The school year is broken into 4 quarters. Each quarter lasts about 9 weeks.

Students only have 4 classes each quarter. They will go to these 4 classes every day (87 minutes each) for the entire quarter. Good attendance is very important.

Grades are final at the end of each quarter and put on their transcript. Grades start over at the beginning of each quarter.

Every class in a quarter (each block) is worth 5 credits, if final grade at the end of the quarter is a 60% or above. 59% and below is an F and earns no credit.

Most elective classes are completed in just one quarter. Most academic classes (Lang Arts, Sci, Social Studies, Math, World Languages) are completed in 2 quarters.

If you pass one quarter of an academic class but fail the second, you only have to retake the quarter that you failed. However, if you fail the first quarter of a **math** or **world language** class you will not be allowed to go on to the second quarter because everything in the second quarter builds off of the first quarter. You must meet with your counselor to change the second quarter to another class and you will then have to retake the entire math or world language class the following year.

Because academic classes are completed in a semester (2 quarters), students can take two math classes, two science classes, or two language classes, in the same year (we call this "doubling up"), *if it works in their schedule*.

Since each class in a quarter is worth 5 credits (if passed with a 60% and above), you can earn up to 20 credits each quarter of school. And up to 80 credits in a school year.

((See graduation requirements on next page)) Since 240 total credits are required to graduate and you can earn up to 80 credits each year, this means it is possible to graduate after just three years of high school. Most students still take four years, but this is good news for two reasons. 1) Strong students will have extra room in their schedule during their senior year to earn a bunch of free college credit. 2) It also means that it is possible for students who have a rough start and end up failing/retaking some classes, to still graduate on time, with their class, in four years.

A student **MUST** pass their language arts class AND earn at least 60 credits EACH YEAR in order to graduate on time. We do not promote students to the next grade level until they reach this benchmark of 60 credits and that year's LA class.

# Graduation Requirements

Requirement	Credits Required	Typical Year Taken				Rocky Classes
		9th	10th	11th	12th	
Language Arts	40	✓	✓	✓	✓	English 9, World Literature and Comp, US Literature and Comp, a Senior English Class
Civics/Government	5				✓	American Government, We the People, AP Government
US History	10			✓		US History, AP US History
Social Studies	10		✓			World History, Pre- AP World History, World Geography, AP Human Geography
Humanities	5			✓	✓	Classical, Contemporary, African, Asian, and American Humanities
Fine and Applied Arts	10	✓	✓			Visual Arts Classes, Performing Arts Classes, Technology Education Classes, Production-Based Business and FCS Classes
World Language or World Studies	10	✓	✓	✓	✓	Any World Language (Spanish, French, German) or World History or Pre-AP World History
Math	30	✓	✓	✓		Any Math class in this curriculum guide (note the sequences in the Math section)
Science	30	✓	✓	✓		Any Science class in this curriculum guide, beginning with Biology or ESS
Wellness	15	✓	✓	✓	✓	Must begin with PE1 and completed through other Wellness classes
Personal Finance	5			✓		Career and Financial Planning, Financial Life Management
Economics	5			✓	✓	Economics, AP Micro/Macro Economics, Business Economics
Electives	65	✓	✓	✓	✓	Any course taken after fulfillment of graduation requirements listed above
<b>Total Credits 9-12</b>	<b>240</b>	80	70	60	60	Recommended credits per year per grade level. We encourage students to take more than the minimum to graduate