



***9TH AND 10TH GRADERS***

***WHAT YOU NEED TO***

***KNOW NOW FOR COLLEGE***

---

# ***OVERVIEW OF TODAY***

***1. PRESENTATION***

***2. Q & A***

# **“A-G” COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

## ***Also Da Vinci Connect HS Graduation Requirements***

**A: History/Social Sciences** - 2 yrs. required: World History, US History  
(DV gives you 3 yrs)

**B: English** - 4 yrs. required (DV gives you 4 yrs)

**C: Mathematics** - 3 yrs. required *including a full year of Geometry, 4 yrs. recommended* (DV gives you 3 with comm. college option for more)

**D: Laboratory Science** - 2 yrs. required, 3 yrs. recommended (DV gives you 3 yrs)

**E: Language other than English** - 2 yrs. required, 3 yrs. recommended  
(DV Connect has students obtain this req. at a community college 1 sem=2 HS yrs)

**F: Visual and Performing Arts** - 1 yr. required (DV give you 1 year)

**G: College Preparatory Elective** - 1 yr. required (DV gives you 5  
Business classes= 5 years)

(Note: These are the minimum requirements to be “eligible” for UC’s and CSU’s. To be “competitive” for most universities you want to take **four years** of math and **three years** of foreign language, and as many college-prep electives as possible.)

UC “a-g” Course Requirements*	Da Vinci Graduation Requirements	Da Vinci Courses Offered		Completed at Comm. College	Completed	To Complete
a. History/Social Science – 2 years required (1 year must be US History and 1 year of another social science)	a. History/Social Science - 3 years required  *State min: 3 years required	World History				
		US History				
		Government/Economics				
b. English – 4 years required	b. English - 4 years required  *State min: 3 years required	English 9				
		English 10				
		English 11				
		English 12				
c. Mathematics – 3 years required, 4 years recommended	c. Mathematics - 3 years required	Algebra I	Geometry			
		Algebra II	Pre-Calculus			

# ***WHAT ARE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS REPS LOOKING FOR? "GREETED"***

- ***GRADES***
- ***RIGOR OF COURSES***
- ***ESSAY***
- ***EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES***
- ***TESTING***
- ***EVALUATION FROM TEACHERS/COUNSELOR***
- ***DEMONSTRATED INTEREST***

# GRADES

## WHAT ARE COLLEGES LOOKING FOR?

- **STRONG GRADES/GPA**
- **IN ACADEMICALLY RIGOROUS COURSES (HIGHEST LEVEL AVAILABLE)**
- **MEETING COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS (EX: NUMBER OF YEARS IN THE COLLEGES' REQUIRED COURSES AND THE GRADES YOU RECEIVED IN THEM EX: UC/CSU A-G VS. UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO)**

## PURPOSE?

- **IS STUDENT READY FOR COLLEGE?**
- **DOES STUDENT CHALLENGE HIM/HERSELF ACADEMICALLY?**

# ***RIGOR OF COURSES***

- ***TAKING THE HIGHEST LEVEL, MOST DEMANDING COURSES AVAILABLE TO YOU***
- ***WILL LOOK AT RIGOR IN CONTEXT OF THEIR HIGH SCHOOL***
- ***AT DV CONNECT HS, THIS MEANS COLLEGE COURSES (BUSINESS CLASSES-SNHU, AND ANY COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASSES)***
- ***TAKING RIGOROUS COURSES AND DOING WELL IN THEM (AS AND BS) LETS COLLEGE ADMISSION OFFICERS KNOW YOU ARE READY FOR THE HIGHER LEVEL MORE DEMANDING COURSE LOAD THAT YOU WILL TAKE IN COLLEGE***
- ***LETS COLLEGE ADMISSION OFFICERS KNOW THAT YOU ARE CHALLENGE YOURSELF- A CHARACTERISTIC THEY ARE LOOKING FOR***

# **ESSAYS AKA PERSONAL STATEMENTS**

## **PURPOSE?**

- ***PAINTS A "PICTURE" FOR THE ADMISSION COMMITTEE TO UNDERSTAND ANY ACADEMIC OR PERSONAL INTERESTS***
- ***AREAS OF STRENGTH/AREAS OF GROWTH***
- ***OBSTACLES OR CIRCUMSTANCE(S) STUDENT OVERCAME***
- ***PROVIDES INFORMATION NOT LISTED ELSEWHERE ON APPLICATION***
- ***ABLE TO EXPLAIN ABOUT SOMETHING IN MORE DETAIL***

***EX: CAN BE BROAD (TELL US ANYTHING YOU THINK THE COLLEGE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT YOU) OR SPECIFIC (WRITE A LETTER TO YOUR FUTURE ROOMMATE SO THEY CAN GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER)***



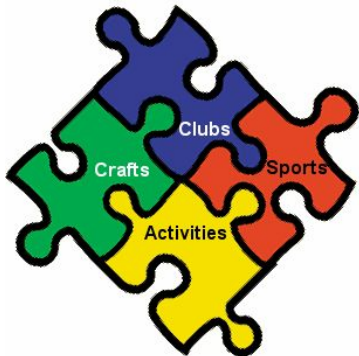


# **EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

**QUALITY  
OVER  
QUANTITY**

**PASSION AND  
COMMITMENT**

**LEADERSHIP,  
RESPONSIBILITY,  
AND GROWTH**



# Test Scores: TESTING OVERVIEW SAT VS. ACT

SAT	ACT
3 hours plus 50 minute “optional” essay	3 hours plus 40 minute “optional” essay
<b>3 Sections:</b> Reading, Writing and Language, Math, and Essay (optional, but do it!)	<b>4 sections:</b> Reading, English, Math, Science, and Essay (optional, but do it!)
Scored on a scale of 400-1600	Scored on a scale of 1-36
No penalty for wrong answer	No penalty for wrong answer

# TEST SCORES



## SAT

- **EVIDENCE-BASED READING AND WRITING**
- **MATH**
- **ESSAY (OPTIONAL, BUT DO IT!)**
- **EACH SECTION SCORED ON A SCALE OF 200-800, 2-8 ON 3 DIMENSIONS FOR THE ESSAY, REPORTED SEPARATELY**

## ACT

- **ENGLISH**
- **MATH**
- **READING**
- **SCIENCE**
- **ESSAY (OPTIONAL, BUT DO IT!)**
- **EACH SECTION SCORED ON A SCALE OF 1-36, YOUR OVERALL SCORE IS AVERAGED, CALLED COMPOSITE SCORE**



# **EVALUATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

## **WHO WRITES THEM?**

- ***COUNSELOR***
- ***TWO ACADEMIC TEACHERS***

## **PURPOSE?**

- ***SHARE ABOUT YOU AS A STUDENT***
- ***TELL A STORY***
- ***WHAT WILL THE STUDENT BRING TO THE CAMPUS***



# ***DEMONSTRATED INTEREST***

- Refers to how much an applicant shows interest in a particular school or course of study/major
- A student can demonstrate interest by:
  - attending a program of their intended major (ex: attending an Art summer program if you plan on majoring in Art in college)
  - taking a community college class in a certain area you plan on majoring in in college (ex: taking a speech class if you plan on majoring in Broadcast Journalism/Communications)
  - filling out an online interest form for a specific school
  - emailing the regional admission counselor for a specific school
  - attending college fairs or school info sessions (virtually or in person)
  - visit the college through the tour office

***YOU WILL TAKE THE SAT AND OR ACT FOR THE FIRST  
REAL TIME...***

***SPRING OF JUNIOR YEAR!***

***PREPPING IS KEY! DO NOT GO INTO THE TEST COLD!***

***COLLEGEBOARD.ORG USES KHAN ACADEMY- ITS FREE! JUST NEED TO CREATE AN  
ACCOUNT***

***ACT HAS ACT ACADEMY- FREE PREP ON THEIR WEBSITE:***

***[HTTPS://WWW.ACT.ORG/CONTENT/ACT/EN/PRODUCTS-AND-SERVICES/THE-ACT/TEST-PREPARATION.HTML](https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/the-act/test-preparation.html)***

# WHAT'S OUT THERE?

## College (2-Year)

This is a community college that offers an Associate's Degree , Certificate programs (trade/vocational)

## College (4-Year)

This is a liberal arts college that offers Bachelor's Degrees

## University (4-Year)

This is a public or private University that offers a Bachelor's AND Master's and Doctoral Degrees

## ***TYPES OF COLLEGES***

### ***2 YR- COMMUNITY COLLEGES***

- × El Camino College
- × West LA College
- × Santa Monica College
- × 116 in the state

### ***4 YR - CA STATE SYSTEMS***

- × 23 Cal State University (CSU) Campuses
- × 9 University of California (UC) Campuses

### ***4 YR - OUT OF STATE & PRIVATE SCHOOLS***

- × HBCUs
- × LMU/USC/Univ of Redlands/ Occidental
- × Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)



**1000+**

**COLLEGES**

***DO NOT REQUIRE THE SAT OR ACT***

<https://fairtest.org/university/optional>

<https://www.fairtest.org/university/optional>

# HOW TO MAXIMIZE YOUR COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING



## FAMILY CONNECTION BY NAVIANCE

[www.naviance.com](http://www.naviance.com)

### Colleges

- “Colleges I’m thinking about” list
- “Colleges I’m applying to” list
- Upcoming College visits
- Super Match College Search
- College Look up
- Acceptance History
- Scholarship List

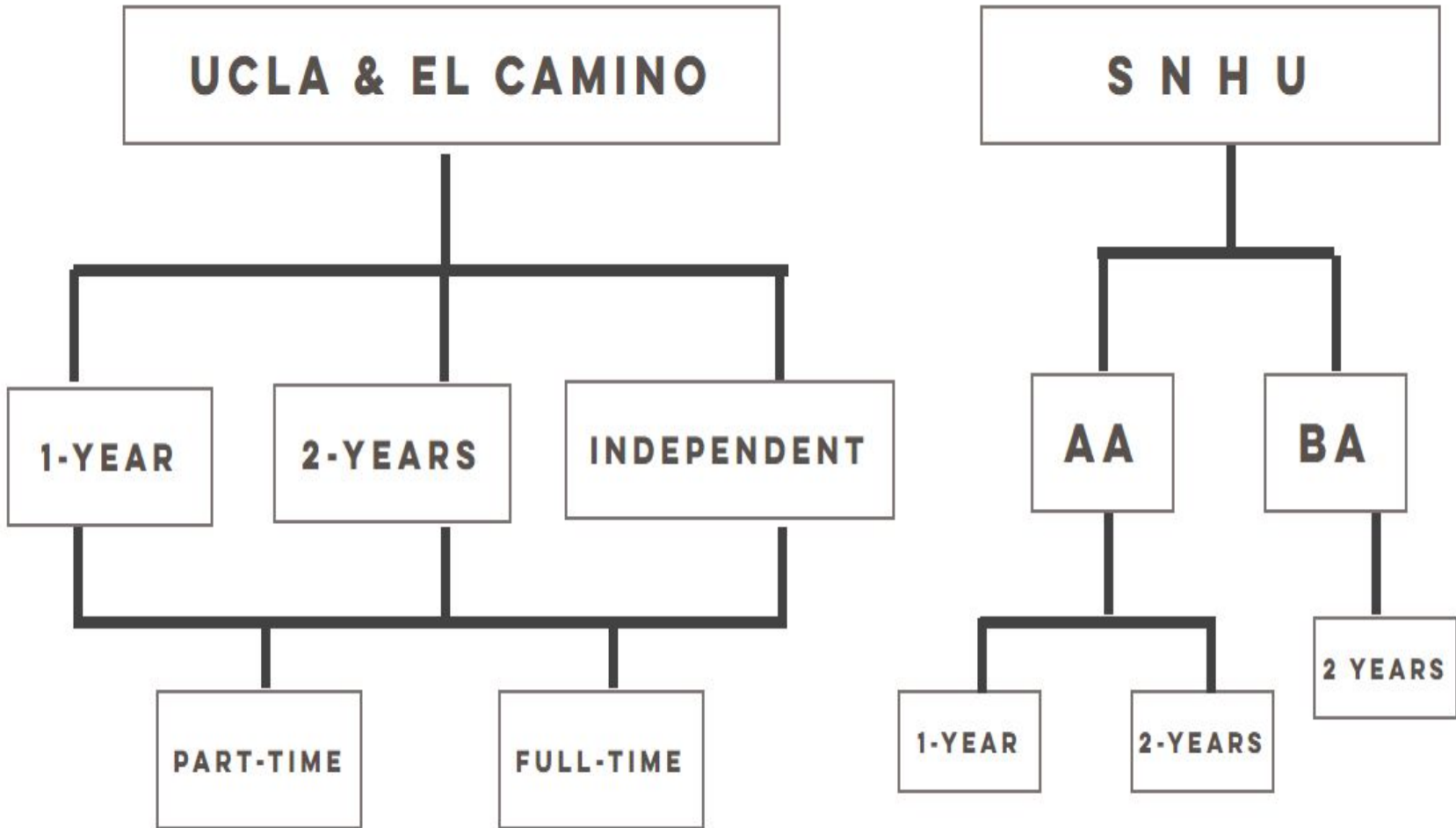
### Careers

- Explore careers that fit student’s interest
- Personality Type Inventory
- Career Interest Profiler

### About Me

- List Goals
- Favorite Colleges
- Favorite Careers
- Personality Type
- Resume
- Standardized Test Scores
- College planning documents

# DVX College Pathways



# More questions about the DVX and the pathways?

Contact:

Sylvia Soria, DVX Counselor, at  
[ssoria@davincischools.org](mailto:ssoria@davincischools.org)

## Terms you should know...

Start saving now  
College Savings Plans  
- 529

Formula

$COA - EFC = \text{Need}$

Net Price calculators

**FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid): Required application form for any student who is applying for college scholarships, grants and loans.

**EFC** (Estimated Family Contribution): The FAFSA will calculate how much money your family is expected to contribute to your child's education.

**SCHOLARSHIPS & GRANTS:** Money from the college that you keep and do not pay back (e.g. a gift). (Cal Grants - Pell Grants)

**LOANS:** Money given but you pay back with interest that starts accruing after graduating. (Parent Plus Loans)

**FEDERAL COLLEGE WORK-STUDY:** Eligible students can work a part-time job on campus (e.g. cafeteria, library, tour guide) and earn money towards education expenses.

# ***IMPORTANT TO DOS AS YOU MOVE FORWARD IN HIGH SCHOOL***

## **KEEP UP GRADES!**

- THE CAL STATE AND UC SYSTEM USE THESE GRADES TO DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY (10 AND 11 GRADE YEARS)***
- OTHER COLLEGES WILL LOOK AT JUNIOR YEAR TO DETERMINE 'GRADE TREND', ACADEMIC RIGOR AND PRELIMINARY ADMISSION***
- CHALLENGE YOURSELF AND TAKE COLLEGE CLASSES!  
DEMONSTRATES RIGOR AND THAT YOU ARE READY FOR HIGHER  
LEVEL, MORE DEMANDING CLASS WORK***
- AIM FOR A'S AND B'S IN YOUR CLASSES***

# **GET INVOLVED!**

- ***CONTINUE ACTIVITIES IN COMMUNITY SERVICE, SCHOOL CLUBS, VOLUNTEER, MUSIC, SPORTS, THEATER, ETC.!***
  - ***DEMONSTRATES INVOLVEMENT IN COMMUNITY AND LEADERSHIP AND AREAS OF INTEREST***
- ***PARTICIPATE IN SUMMER PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES***
  - ***DEMONSTRATE COMMITMENT TO AREA OF INTEREST, FOCUS OR LEADERSHIP***
  - ***TAKE A COMMUNITY COLLEGE CLASS IN AN AREA OF INTEREST***
- ***DEVELOP PORTFOLIO FOR ARTS COLLEGES***
- ***VISIT COLLEGES DURING SUMMER BREAK***

# **GET INVOLVED!**

- **COLLEGES WILL ALSO WANT TO KNOW HOW YOU STAYED BUSY/INVOLVED/ACTIVE DURING COVID. ATTEND VIRTUAL WEBINARS, COLLEGE FAIRS, VIRTUAL TOURS, OR INFO SESSIONS ABOUT SCHOOLS YOU ARE INTERESTED OR COULD BE INTERESTED IN.**
- **SUMMER INTERNSHIP AVAILABLE- LOOK ON THE BLOG FOR THE SUMMER INTERNSHIPS POST**
- **COLLEGES WILL ALSO WANT TO KNOW HOW YOU STAYED MENTALLY HEALTHY DURING COVID. PICK UP A HOBBY, CREATE A ZOOM WALKING CLUB, GET TOGETHER STUDY GROUPS WITH YOUR PEERS FOR YOUR MATH CLASS, AND THEN AFTER HAVE A CHAT HOUR WITH THEM TO SOCIALIZE. GET CREATIVE!**



# ***CREATE A DESIGN PORTFOLIO***



More and more colleges allow students to add digital portfolios (ZeeMee is just one example). Even if you aren't pursuing design in the future, a design portfolio will showcase your ability to observe, notice, and grow over time. We recommend taking quality pictures of every project and save them somewhere safe (we recommend somewhere cloud-based in case anything gets lost or broken). Common App has a link for this to add to your application.

# COUNSELOR

It's always better to prevent problems, than to "fix" problems. Come talk about it!!



Erin Knott  
[eknott@davincischools.org](mailto:eknott@davincischools.org)

