



Public Schools of North Carolina

GRAD-004

Graduation Requirements

Revisions based on

Legislation

State Board of Education January 2020

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NCDPI Recommendation

GRAD 004 Revisions

Current Social Studies Graduation Requirements	Proposed Social Studies Graduation Requirements for Entering Grade 9 in 2020-21 *
<p>World History (WH)</p> <p>American History I (AH1)</p> <p>American History II (AH 2)</p> <p>American History: Founding Principles, Civics and Economics (AHFPCE)</p>	<p>World History (WH)</p> <p>American History (AH)</p> <p>Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy (FPUSANCCL)</p> <p>Economics and Personal Finance (EPF)</p>
<p>Note: Occupational Course of Study will also change based on the decision of the SBE as well as graduation requirements for current students, to permit as much flexibility as possible. See SBE attachments for details</p>	



Critical Factors Considered

LEGISLATION

- As interpreted by legal staff initially
- Based on intent of NC General Assembly
- SL 2019-82, HB 924 passed this Summer and states that:
 - Only four full-course credits in social studies may be required for high school graduation
 - One course must be required for the 9th graders entering in 2020-21: Economics and Personal Finance
 - An additional course must be required for the 9th graders entering in 2021-22: Founding Principles of the United States of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy
 - The SS Standard Course of Study will be revised in 2019-20 to include these two courses.



Language from legislation

House Bill 924

SECTION 5. The State Board of Education shall begin the process for review and revision of the standard course of study for social studies in grades kindergarten through 12 in the 2019-2020 school year and shall revise the high school standard course of study in accordance with the requirements of this section for the EPF course and the Founding Principles of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy course. The State Board shall review the high school standard course of study to determine the high school grade level during which the EPF course and the Founding Principles of America and North Carolina: Civic Literacy course may be completed. The State Board of Education shall not require more than four full-course credits in social studies for high school graduation



Critical Factors Considered

BREADTH OF AMERICAN HISTORY

- New proposed standards do not duplicate standards; AH included in Grades 2, 4, 5, and 8 plus HS course allowing deeper connections
- New Founding Principles course will include more focus on civic literacy including functions of government, the Constitution, and the history behind our form of government.
- Note: 47 other states have one credit for American History in HS

LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS

- Any teacher who participates in the professional development for EPF may teach this course.
- Per legislation, the professional development is to be provided by the North Carolina Council on Economic Education (NCCEE) but there is no funding currently so the SBE may choose to determine other requirements.



Possible Other Options and Conditions

Make EPF course a CTE course (SS)

Considerations:

- May increase graduation requirements
- Additional funding needed for these teachers; CTE funds cannot be used to supplant state required courses
- Focus from Federal Legislation for CTE: Course sequences and pathways that lead to industry-certified certifications and credentials, not an individual course
- New EPF standards are comprised of elements from the CTE standards (~40%), the Economics standards (~60%), other state's standards, industry recommendations, and legislatively mandated national standards.
- SS SCOS revision process is already underway and 6 months of work with external stakeholders has already occurred
- CTE Personal Finance course has already been eliminated in November by the SBE because it does not fit in a pathway aligned to a course sequence



Possible Other Options and Conditions

Make EPF a Required Elective; Keep 22 credits

Considerations:

- Maintain 4 other SS credits
- Reduces current 6 open electives to 5
- Additional funding needed for these teachers; cannot use CTE funding



Possible Other Options and Conditions

Make EPF a required elective; Increase 23 credits

Considerations:

- Additional elective requirement
- Makes Graduation Requirements to 23 credits
- Some LEAs already have additional requirements
- Additional funding needed for these teachers; cannot use CTE funding



NCDPI Recommendation

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Timeline Factor

Schools are determining their master schedule and plan for the next year; the SBE decision is critical for them to move forward.

