

**THE
SOPHOMORE YEAR**

**Planning Handbook
for Sophomores and their Parents**

Class of 2018

**Saratoga High School
Fall 2015**

School Code: 053343

The Sophomore Year - Class of 2018
A PDF version of the handbook is available at www.saratogahigh.org
> Guidance> Guidance Materials>For Students>Grade Level Books>
Sophomore Year Grade Level Book

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SOPHOMORE YEAR CALENDAR

- ◆ Get the school year off to a good start.
- ◆ Continue to learn; earn good grades.
- ◆ If college bound, improve upon freshman grades if they were lower than B's. A "C-" grade is the minimum needed to meet most college subject eligibility requirements.

First Semester

September:

8 -11 Guidance Meeting in English class
 14 PSAT online registration begins
 15 Sophomore Parent Information
 Night at 7 p.m. in the McAfee
 Center
 25 End of First Grading Period

October:

2 Last day to drop a class without
 penalty
 14 PSAT registration ends
 28 PSAT Exam

November:

6 End of Second Grading Period

December:

 PSAT results mailed home
 14-17 Final Exams
 21 – Jan 1 December Break

Second Semester

January:

4 Classes Resume

February:

TBD California High School Exit Exam
 4 Sophomore Parent Guidance
 Night at 7 p.m. in the McAfee Center
 5 Guidance Meeting/Registration for
 Junior Classes in McAfee Center
 12 End of 1st Grading Period
 15-19 February Recess

April:

1 End of 2nd Grading Period
 8 Registration deadline for May 7
 SAT Test (if applicable)
 4-8 Spring Break

May:

7 SAT Test Date
 5 Registration deadline for June 4
 SAT Test (if applicable)

June:

May 30-2 Final Exams
 4 SAT Test Date

Preparing for Graduation

June 2017

SARATOGA HIGH SCHOOL Graduation Requirements

SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS		SHS COURSES THAT MEET GRADUATION SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS	
1. English	4 years (40 credits)	Gr. 9: Gr. 10: Gr. 11: Gr. 12:	English 9, English 9 MAP English 10, MAP Eng. 10 English 11, or English 11 Honors or English 11 MAP or English 11 MAP Honors English 12, English Lang AP or English Lit AP English 12 MAP, Eng Lang AP MAP or Eng Lit AP MAP
2. History	3 1/2 years (35 credits)	Gr. 9: Gr. 10: Gr. 11: Gr. 12:	World Geography (1 semester) World History, World History MAP U.S. Hist or US Hist MAP or US Hist AP /US Hist.AP MAP Econ/U.S. Govt or Econ/US Govt AP or Econ/US Govt MAP Or Econ/U.S. Govt AP MAP
3. Mathematics	2 years (20 credits)	Gr. 9 - 12:	any two years Algebra 1 Sequential Algebra 1 Sequential Algebra 1/Geometry Geometry Geometry Enriched Algebra 2 Algebra 2 Honors Trigonometry/Math 4 Trigonometry PreCalculus Trigonometry/PreCalculus Honors Calculus Calculus (AB) AP Calculus (BC) AP Statistics AP
4. Science	2 years (20 credits)	Gr. 9 - 12:	any two years Earth Science Biology Chemistry Chemistry Honors Astronomy Marine Biology Physics Physics AP 1/2 Anatomy/Physiology Biology AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science AP
5. Physical Fitness	2 years (20 credits)	Gr. 9 - 10:	Physical Fitness. Options: Physical Fitness Band P.E. Colorguard Independent Study P.E. Spirit Squad Sports P.E. Winterguard
6. Visual/ Performing Art	1 year (10 credits)	Gr. 9 - 12:	Jazz Band 1 Media Arts 2 Music Theory AP Orchestra 1, 2, 3, 4, 4H, 5, 5H Soprano/Alto Choir OR One year of a world language
Advanced Jazz Ensemble Art 1, 2, 3, 4H Band 1, 2, 3, 4, 4H, 5, 5H Cantare Chorale 2,3,4 Ceramics 1, 2, 3		Chamber Singers 2, 3, 4 Concert Choir 1, 2, 3, 4 Digital Photography Drama 1, 2, 3, 4, 4H Guitar History in Film	
7. AppliedArts	1/2 year (5 credits)	Gr. 9 - 12:	any one semester Engineering Design Intro General Psychology Intro to Computing Journalism 1, 2, 3, 4H Media Arts 1 Multimedia Journalism 2, 3, 4 Principles of Engineering Rhetoric. Sports Medicine Stage Technology & Design
Academic Tutor Advanced Jazz Ensemble Computer Science AP Digital Electronics Drama 3, 4, 4H			
8. Health/Drivers Ed	1/2 year (5 credits)	Gr. 9:	Health/Driver Education
9. Electives	65 credits	Additional courses in any subject area beyond the minimum subject requirements that are listed above in #3-7	

NOTE: Check www.saratogahigh.org>registration information for course descriptions, necessary prerequisites, etc.

Saratoga High School and College Prep Requirements

SARATOGA HIGH SCHOOL: Minimum Graduation Requirements

Department	Credit	Check semester box when course is successfully completed								
English	40	Eng 9	Eng 9	Eng 10	Eng 10	Eng 11	Eng 11	Eng 12	Eng 12	*can be scheduled either semester
Social Studies	35	*WGeo		WHist	WHist	USHist	USHist	*Govt	*Econ	
Math	20									
Science	10	Physical or Biological	Physical or Biological	Physical or Biological	Physical or Biological					
PE	20	9	9							
Visual/Perform Arts	10									
Applied Arts	5									
Health/Dr. Ed.	5									

HS Exit Exam

Math

Lang. Arts

The specific subject requirements listed above equal **155** credits. The remaining minimum of **65** credits may be taken in subject areas that will best prepare students for their particular post graduation plans. Therefore, additional courses in any subject area taken beyond the minimum subject requirements are used to meet this 65 credit requirement. **Visual and Performing Arts** are typically courses in art, music and drama. **Applied Arts** are typically courses in industrial arts, computers, psychology, business, etc. For more details, refer to the departmental charts at www.saratogahigh.org > **registration > Course Offerings>Course Scope and Sequence.**

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

California community colleges provide excellent educational opportunities for students interested in **transfer** programs to various colleges and universities as well as for **enrichment** and **job training**. Students planning to attend a community college should select high school classes that provide the best preparation for the specific program they intend to pursue at the community college. Although community colleges have open admission, students planning to transfer to 4-year universities are encouraged to meet the CSU/UC “a-g” subject requirements, listed below, while still in high school. See your counselor for more information regarding these post graduation options.

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY & UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA: Minimum Subject Requirements

Department	Credit	Check semester when course is successfully completed							
A HISTORY/SOCIAL STUDIES	20	WHist	WHist	USH	USH				
B ENGLISH	40	English 9	English 9	English 10	English 10	English 11	English 11	English 12	
C MATH Alg 1 or Seq Alg and Seq Alg/Geom, or Geom or En Geom, Alg 2	30								
D LAB SCIENCES UC: Bio + Chem or Physics; CSU: Bio + any 'P' Sci	20								
E WORLD LANGUAGE two years of the same language	20								
F VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS	10								
G COLLEGE PREP ELECTIVES*	10	Econ	Govt	Geog					

* CSU and UC campuses require a minimum of two additional semesters of “College Prep Electives” that may be chosen from any of the following subject areas: history, social studies, English, advanced math, lab science, world language and visual & performing arts. For more details regarding the current Saratoga HS approved “a-g” course list, please refer to <https://doorways.ucop.edu/list>.

NOTE: A C- or higher is required in all college prep courses. See your counselor for details regarding any grade or subject deficiencies.

Although the CSU/UC “a-g” subject requirements are excellent college preparation, refer to individual campus websites for details regarding private & out-of-state admission requirements at <http://apps.collegeboard.com/search/index.jsp> or through Naviance at <http://connection.naviance.com/saratogahigh>. The shaded boxes represent semester courses required for Saratoga High School graduation that also meet university minimum subject requirements if the course work is college prep level (“P”) and passed with a “C-” grade or higher.

CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL EXIT EXAMINATION

What is the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE)?

The CAHSEE is a pass/fail test taken by all 10th grade students. It consists of two parts – English Language Arts and Mathematics. The English section covers California’s content standards through 10th grade in a multiple-choice format with one essay. The math section, completely multiple-choice, covers math standards through 6th and 7th grade and Algebra 1. The essay counts for 20% of the English test score. Approximately 60% of responses in English and 55% percent of responses in math must be correct in order to pass the sections, although the state expects to raise the minimum passing scores over time. If students pass one section of the test, they do not take that section again. The test is untimed and is administered over two days. The dates for this year’s CAHSEE tests are February 5-6, 2013.

Preparation booklets for the English-Language Arts and Mathematics tests will be distributed to students in their English classes. Additional copies of these booklets are available in the Guidance Office.

Students who progress through grades 10-12 at the normal pace have six opportunities to pass the test during high school. They may take the test once as sophomores, twice as juniors and three times as seniors.

College Admission Requirements

COLLEGES

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Admission Requirements

Entrance Requirements:

High school diploma **or**
GED **or**
CHSPE **or**
18 years of age

Exam Requirements:

English placement test
Math placement test
Reading placement test

Programs

2-Year Program:

A.A. Degree (Career Training Program)

In addition to the multitude of private trade and technical schools in our area, our local community colleges offer an extensive program of career training degree and certificate programs. Usually after one or two years of community college career courses, students have obtained skills for the work world. For information about a particular program, contact colleges directly.

2 + 2:

C.A.P. (Cooperative Admission Program)

2 years at community college + 2 years at a 4-year college.

T.A.G. (Transfer Admission Guarantee) 2

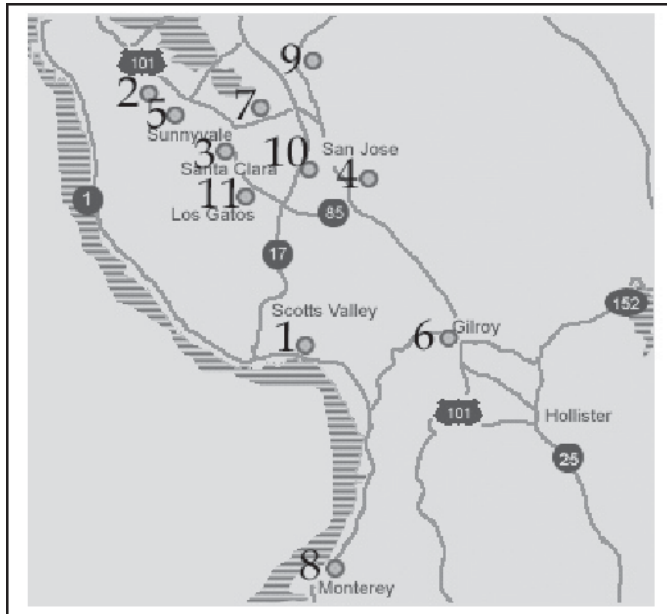
years at community college + 2 years at a seven UC campuses.

Do you know that . . .

1. many of our nearby community colleges have Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG) agreements with seven of the nine University of California campuses.
2. the local community colleges provide career training programs in more than **80** fields.
3. there are **many** two-year community colleges with residence facilities.
4. the probability of attaining a 2-year degree and/or transfer to a 4-year college increases based on the rigor of the high school program.
5. community college constitutes the freshman and sophomore years of college.

Do you know that . . . (continued)

7. students who are eighteen or who have completed high school (or received an equivalent certificate) may attend the community college of their choice.
8. students still in high school may take courses on a community college campus.
9. foreign students (Students with F-1 visas planning on returning to their home countries upon completion of their studies) may attend community colleges but must meet certain requirements. (See the individual campus catalogs.)
10. the local community colleges can help students choose the program or courses best suited to their needs, interests, and capabilities through an extensive counseling, testing, financial aid, work experience, placement and information services network.
11. there is something for every student at a local community colleges.



1 CABRILLO COLLEGE, Aptos
(831) 479-6100
www.cabrillo.edu

2 CAÑADA COLLEGE, Redwood City
(650) 306-3100
www.canadacollege.net

3 DE ANZA COLLEGE, Cupertino
(408) 864-5678
www.deanza.edu

4 EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE, San Jose
(408) 274-7900
www.evc.edu

5 FOOTHILL COLLEGE, Los Altos Hills
(650) 949-7777
www.foothill.edu

6 GAVILAN COLLEGE, Gilroy
(408) 848-4800
www.gavilan.edu

7 MISSION COLLEGE, Santa Clara
(408) 988-2200
www.missioncollege.org

8 MONTEREY PENINSULA COLLEGE, Monterey (831) 646-4000
www.mpc.edu

9 OHLONE COLLEGE, Fremont
(510) 659-6000
www.ohlone.edu

10 SAN JOSE CITY COLLEGE, San Jose
(408) 298-2181
www.sjcc.edu

11 WEST VALLEY COLLEGE, Saratoga
(408) 867-2200
www.westvalley.edu

CSU/UC ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

SUBJECT REQUIREMENTS

SHS Courses meeting CSU/UC Subject Requirements:

- a. **History** 2 Years

- b. **English** 4 Years

- c. **Mathematics** 3 Years

- d. **Lab Science** 2 Years

- e. **Foreign Language** 2 Years

- f. **Visual/Performing Arts** 1 Year

World History **or** World History MAP **or**
 World History/World Geography (one semester of each) **and**
 U.S. History **or** US History AP **or** U.S. History MAP **or**
U.S. History AP MAP **or** U.S. Govt **or** U.S. Govt AP **or**
 US Govt Map **or** US Govt Map AP

English 9 **or** English 9 MAP
 English 10 **or** English 10 MAP
 English 11 **or** Eng 11 Hon **or** Eng 11 MAP **or** Eng 11 MAP Hon
 English 12 **or** English Language Composition AP/AP
MAP **or** English Literature Composition AP/AP MAP

Algebra 1 **and** Geometry **or**
 Sequential Algebra 1/Geometry
 Algebra 2 **or** Algebra 2 Honors

CSU: Biology **and** one science listed under "Electives" below
UC: Biology **and** Chemistry **or** Chemistry Honors

2 years of the **same** language (Levels 1 and 2 minimum)

***May not be used for
 "g" elective credit.**

- | | |
|--|---|
| Adv. Jazz Ensemble
Art 1*, 2, 3, 4H
Band 1*, 2, 3, 4, 4H, 5, 5H
Band 1 Symphonic
Cantare Chorale 2, 3, 4
Ceramics 1*, 2, 3
Chamber Singers 2, 3, 4 | Concert Choir 1*, 2, 3, 4
Digital Photography*
Drama 1*, 2, 3, 4, 4H
Guitar
History in Film*
Media Arts 2
<u>Music Theory AP</u>
Orchestra 1*, 2, 3, 4, 4H, 5, 5H
Soprano/Alto Choir* |
|--|---|

g. Electives 1 Year **(Do not use any courses you have used to meet requirements of "a-f" above).**

- Anatomy & Physiology
- Astronomy (semester)
- Biology AP
- Calculus
- Calculus AB (AP)
- Calculus BC (AP)
- Chemistry
- Chemistry Honors
- Chemistry AP
- Child Psychology and Development
- Computer Science A (AP)
- Creative Writing
- Digital Electronics
- Earth Science
- Economics (semester)
- Economics MAP (semester)

- Environmental Science AP
- European History AP
- Engineering Design Intro
- Intro to Computing
- Journalism 1, 2, 3, 4, 4H
- Marine Biology (semester)
- Physics
- Physics AP 1/2
- Principals of Engineering
- Psychology (or General Psychology)
- Rhetoric Intro.
- Statistics AP
- Trigonometry/Math 4
- Trigonometry/PreCalculus
- Trigonometry/PreCalculus Honors
- World Geography (semester)

Foreign Language:
 Courses above the 2 years requirement

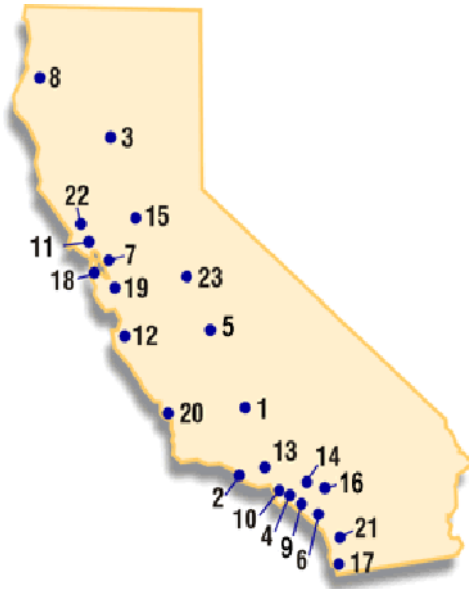
Visual/Performing Arts:
 See Visual/Performing Arts listed in
 "f" above

All subject requirements
 must be completed with
 grades of C- or higher. See
 your counselor re: D/F
 grades.

For more details regarding UC approved a-g courses refer to <https://doorways.ucop.edu/list/>

EXAM REQUIREMENTS	GPA REQUIREMENT
CSU: SAT Reasoning Test or ACT UC: SAT Reasoning Test or ACT with writing	For eligibility purposes, the CSU/UC weighted GPA includes grades earned in all "a-g" courses in years 10-12. Do not count "+" or "-". An honors point is added for each grade of C- or higher earned in approved honors and AP courses, underlined above. A maximum of 8 honors points may be used with a limit of four semesters of H/AP ₁₂ courses taken in the 10th grade.

THE TWENTY-THREE CAMPUSES OF THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY (CSU) SYSTEM



1	CSU-Bakersfield	(661) 654-3036	www.csubak.edu
2	CSU - Channel Islands	(805) 437-8500	www.csuci.edu
3	CSU-Chico	(530) 898-6321	www.csuchico.edu
4	CSU-Dominguez Hills	(310) 243-3696	www.csudh.edu
5	CSU-Fresno	(559) 278-2261	www.csufresno.edu
6	CSU-Fullerton	(714) 278-2300	www.fullerton.edu
7	CSU-East Bay	(510) 885-2624	www.csueastbay.edu
8	Humboldt State	(707) 826-4402	www.humboldt.edu
		(866) 850-9556	
9	CSU-Long Beach	(562) 985-5471	www.csulb.edu
10	CSU - Los Angeles	(323) 343-3901	www.calstatela.edu
11	CA Maritime Academy	(800) 561-1945	www.csum.edu
12	CSU-Monterey Bay	(831) 582-3518	www.csUMB.edu
13	CSU-Northridge	(818) 677-3700	www.csun.edu
14	Cal Poly-Pomona	(909) 869-3210	www.csupomona.edu
15	CSU-Sacramento	(916) 278-3901	www.csus.edu
16	CSU-San Bernardino	(909) 537-5188	www.csusb.edu
17	San Diego State	(619) 594-6336	www.sdsu.edu
18	San Francisco State	(415) 338-1113	www.sfsu.edu
19	San Jose State	(408) 283-7500	www.sjsu.edu
20	Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo	(805) 756-2311	www.calpoly.edu
21	CSU-San Marcos	(760) 750-4848	www.csusm.edu
22	Sonoma State University	(707) 664-2778	www.sonoma.edu
23	CSU-Stanislaus	(209) 667-3070	www.csustan.edu

**CSU Eligibility Index Table for California High School Graduates
(a 2.0 or higher GPA meets minimum eligibility requirements with any score below)**

GPA	ACT	SAT Reasoning Test	GPA	A C T	SAT Reasoning Test	GPA	A C T	SAT Reasoning Test	GPA	A C T	SAT Reasoning Test
2.99	10	510	2.74	15	710	2.49	20	910	2.24	25	1110
2.98	10	520	2.73	15	720	2.48	20	920	2.23	25	1120
2.97	10	530	2.72	15	730	2.47	20	930	2.22	25	1130
2.96	11	540	2.71	16	740	2.46	21	940	2.21	26	1140
2.95	11	540	2.70	16	740	2.45	21	940	2.20	26	1140
2.94	11	550	2.69	16	750	2.44	21	950	2.19	26	1150
2.93	11	560	2.68	16	760	2.43	21	960	2.18	26	1160
2.92	11	570	2.67	16	770	2.42	21	970	2.17	26	1170
2.91	12	580	2.66	17	780	2.41	22	980	2.16	27	1180
2.90	12	580	2.65	17	780	2.40	22	980	2.15	27	1180
2.89	12	590	2.64	17	790	2.39	22	990	2.14	27	1190
2.88	12	600	2.63	17	800	2.38	22	1000	2.13	27	1200
2.87	12	610	2.62	17	810	2.37	23	1010	2.12	27	1210
2.86	13	620	2.61	18	820	2.36	23	1020	2.11	28	1220
2.85	13	620	2.60	18	820	2.35	23	1020	2.10	28	1220
2.84	13	630	2.59	18	830	2.34	23	1030	2.09	28	1230
2.83	13	640	2.58	18	840	2.33	23	1040	2.08	28	1240
2.82	13	650	2.57	18	850	2.32	24	1050	2.07	28	1250
2.81	14	660	2.56	19	860	2.31	24	1060	2.06	29	1260
2.80	14	660	2.55	19	860	2.30	24	1060	2.05	29	1260
2.79	14	670	2.54	19	870	2.29	24	1070	2.04	29	1270
2.78	14	680	2.53	19	880	2.28	24	1080	2.03	29	1280
2.77	14	690	2.52	19	890	2.27	24	1090	2.02	29	1290
2.76	15	700	2.51	20	900	2.26	25	1100	2.01	30	1300
2.75	15	700	2.50	20	900	2.25	25	1100	2.00	30	1300

THE NINE CAMPUSES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA (UC) SYSTEM

- **UC BERKELEY**
Berkeley, CA 94720
(510) 642-6000
www.berkeley.edu

- **UC DAVIS**
One Shields Avenue
Davis, CA 95616
(530) 752-1011
www.ucdavis.edu

- **UC IRVINE**
Irvine, CA 92697
(949) 824-5011
www.uci.edu/

- **UC LOS ANGELES**
Los Angeles, CA 90095
(310) 825-4321
www.ucla.edu

- **UC MERCED**
5200 N. Lake Road
Merced, CA 95343
(209) 228-4400
www.ucmerced.edu

- **UC RIVERSIDE**
Riverside, CA 92521
(951) 827-1012
www.ucr.edu

- **UC SAN DIEGO**
9500 Gilman Drive
La Jolla, CA 92093
(858) 534-2230
www.ucsd.edu

- **UC SANTA BARBARA**
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
(805) 893-8000
www.ucsb.edu

- **UC SANTA CRUZ**
1156 High Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95064
(831) 459-0111
www.ucsc.edu



**Testing
and
Other
Important
Information**

TESTING INFORMATION

PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test):

Comparison of the Major Features: Pre-2015 and New PSAT/NMSQT		
Category	Pre-2015 PSAT/NMSQT	New PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10
Total Testing Time*		
*Subject to research	2 hours and 10 minutes	2 hours and 45 minutes
Components	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Critical Reading 2. Writing 3. Mathematics 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence-Based Reading and Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Test • Writing and Language Test 2. Math
Important Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis on general reasoning skills • Emphasis on vocabulary, often in limited contexts • Complex scoring (a point for a correct answer and a deduction for an incorrect answer; blank responses have no impact on scores) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued emphasis on reasoning alongside a clearer, stronger focus on the knowledge, skills, and understandings most important for college and career readiness and success • Greater emphasis on the meaning of words in extended contexts and on how word choice shapes meaning, tone, and impact • Rights-only scoring (a point for a correct answer but no deduction for an incorrect answer; blank responses have no impact on scores)
Score Reporting*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale ranging from 60 to 240 • Scale ranging from 20 to 80 for Critical Reading, Mathematics, and Writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scores will be reported on a shared common score scale with the SAT: The scale ranges for the PSAT/NMSQT and PSAT 10 scores are 320–1520 for the total score, 160–760 for each of two section scores, and 8–38 for test scores.
*Subject to research		
Subscore Reporting	None	Subscores for every test, providing added insight for students, parents, educators, and counselors

2015 PSAT REGISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATION

The Preliminary SAT (PSAT) will be administered at SHS on **Wednesday, October 28th** in the morning to interested students. This year the College Board is NOT providing the PSAT on a Saturday test date as in previous years. Students who take the PSAT will be excused from their classes.

The Preliminary SAT is a great tool for students considering college. The PSAT measures critical reading skills, math problem-solving skills and writing skills. Saratoga High School allows Sophomores to take the PSAT in order to receive feedback about strengths and weaknesses and to help prepare for the SAT.

Another change for the 2015 PSAT, is that students will be registering online. This registration will take a few minutes and can be completed from any computer with internet access.

Online Exam registration will begin for Sophomores on Monday September 14, 2015 at 8:00 AM and end on Wednesday Oct 14, 2015 at 11:00 PM. In order to register, students should click on the link provided on the school website or visit **www.TotalRegistration.net/PSAT/053343** to register. To complete registration, students must answer all of the required questions. Registration is not complete until students have printed the pdf of the confirmation page that is provided at the end.

Saratoga High School is excited to offer families the convenience of paying exam fees (\$30) online at the time of registration. Please be sure to have a **debit or credit card (Visa or Mastercard) available before beginning registration.** Paying online is a great way to make sure that payment has been made right away. If necessary payments can also be made by mail.

Here are the important dates for the registration process:

- Tue, Sep 14, 2015 at 8:00 AM – Sophomore Registration Begins
- Wed, Oct 14, 2015 at 11:00 PM - Registration Ends
- Sat, Oct 17, 2015 at 11:00 AM - Registrations that have not been paid for will be canceled and exams will not be ordered.

Please contact Mrs. Bonnie Sheikh, bsheikh@lgsuhd.org , if you have questions or require financial assistance.

SAT Reasoning Test:

The College Board is redesigning the SAT and the first administration of the redesigned SAT will be in Spring 2016. The following information is from the College Board Website <https://www.collegeboard.org/delivering-opportunity/sat/faqs>

How will redesigning the SAT benefit students?

The redesigned SAT will ask students to apply a deep understanding of the few skills and content areas most important for college and career readiness. The questions will be more familiar to students because they'll be modeled on the work of the best classroom teachers. And the College Board will be open and clear, taking the mystery out of the exam and providing a full SAT blueprint before the first administration in spring 2016. Free test preparation is also on the way.

How is the SAT changing?

The redesigned SAT will be more focused on the few things shown by current research to matter most in college and career. When students open their test books in spring 2016, they'll find questions asking them to support their answers with evidence, vocabulary they'll use long after they've taken the exam, an essay prompt asking them to analyze a writer's argument, and multistep problems requiring them to apply math in real-world contexts.

What will be tested on the redesigned SAT?

The redesigned SAT will require students to:

- Analyze and use reasoning to comprehend challenging literary and informational texts, including texts in science, history, and social studies.
- Revise and edit extended texts across a variety of academic and career-related content areas to improve the way ideas are developed, organized, and expressed using Standard Written English conventions.
- Show command of a focused but powerful set of skills and understandings in math and use them to solve problems in science, social studies, and career-related contexts.
- Make careful and considered use of evidence as they read and write.
- Analyze data, including data represented graphically, in reading, writing, and math contexts.
- Demonstrate an understanding of vocabulary in context and how word choice affects meaning and tone.

How long will the redesigned SAT be?

The redesigned SAT will be 3 hours long with an additional 50 minutes given for the Essay. Please note: Precise timing is tentative and subject to research.

What’s the best way for students to prepare for the redesigned SAT?

Rigorous course work will be, more than ever, the best preparation for the SAT. As test day approaches, students can use free College Board resources to get to know the exam and to build on their preparation with targeted review and authentic practice.

Will the SAT still have an essay section?

Yes. Students will be asked to write an essay analyzing a source document. The essay prompt will be shared in advance and will remain consistent; only the passage will change. The Essay section will no longer be required by the College Board. However, many school districts and colleges will require students to complete the Essay.

Why is the essay optional?

There are two main reasons behind the decision to make the essay optional on the redesigned SAT. The editing work students do in the multiple-choice Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section is deeply predictive of college success. However, one essay alone has not in the past contributed significantly to the overall predictive power of the exam. Furthermore, feedback from college admission officers was split; some of them found the essay useful while many did not.

Can students use calculators on the redesigned SAT?

A calculator will be allowed on one of two sections in the redesigned SAT Math Test. Calculators are important mathematical tools, and to succeed after high school, students have to know how to use them effectively and appropriately. But the no-calculator section makes it easier to assess students’ fluency in math and understanding of math concepts. It also rewards well-learned technique and number-sense.

How will SAT scores change?

The redesigned SAT will be scored on a 400- to 1600-point scale. The Evidence-Based Reading and Writing section and the Math section will each be scored on a 200- to 800-point scale. Scores for the Essay section will be reported separately. Another important change is the move to rights-only scoring: There will no longer be a penalty for wrong answers. We’ll also introduce an enriched score report that provides more insight into students’ strengths and areas for improvement, helping teachers and students focus.

Will wrong answers still lower SAT scores?

Wrong answers will no longer be deducted from a student’s score. The redesigned SAT will use rights-only scoring. Students will simply get points for the questions they answer correctly. Rights-only scoring encourages students to give the best answer they have to every problem, without risking a penalty for trying their best.

Overview: Current SAT vs. Redesigned SAT

This high-level comparison between the current SAT and the redesigned SAT highlights major design features of the two tests. The first table provides a comparison of the major features of the current SAT and redesigned SAT. The second table provides a comparison by test, including the number of items and testing time. It is important to note that while the information in these tables represents our best understanding of the nature and features of the redesigned SAT, some specific elements, such as timing, length, and reported scores, are subject to revision based on the ongoing research process that guides the redesign.

Comparison of Test Length and Timing: Current SAT vs. Redesigned SAT					
Current SAT			Redesigned SAT		
Component	Time Allotted (minutes)	Number of Question/ Tasks	Component	Time Allotted (minutes)	Number of Questions/ Tasks
Critical Reading	70	67	Reading	65	52
Writing	60	49	Writing and Language	35	44
Essay	25	1	Essay (optional)	50	1
Mathematics	70	54	Math	80	57
Total	225	171	Total	180 (230 with Essay)	153 (154 with Essay)

Comparison of the Major Features: Current SAT vs. Redesigned SAT		
Category	Current SAT	Redesigned SAT
Total Testing Time* *Redesigned SAT testing time subject to research	3 hours and 45 minutes	3 hours (plus 50 minutes for the Essay [optional])
Components	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Critical Reading 2. Writing 3. Mathematics 4. Essay 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence-Based Reading and Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reading Test ○ Writing and Language Test 2. Math 3. Essay (optional)
Important Features	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emphasis on general reasoning skills • Emphasis on vocabulary, often in limited contexts • Complex scoring (a point for a correct answer and a deduction for an incorrect answer; blank responses have no impact on scores) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued emphasis on reasoning alongside a clearer, stronger focus on the knowledge, skills, and understandings most important for college and career readiness and success • Greater emphasis on the meaning of words in extended contexts and on how word choice shapes meaning, tone, and impact • Rights-only scoring (a point for a correct answer but no deduction for an incorrect answer; blank responses have no impact on scores)
Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Required and given at the beginning of the SAT • 25 minutes to write the essay • Tests writing skill; students take a position on a presented issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Optional and given at the end of the SAT; postsecondary institutions determine whether they will require the Essay for admission • 50 minutes to write the essay • Tests reading, analysis, and writing skills; students produce a written analysis of a provided source text
Score Reporting* *Redesigned SAT scores subject to research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale ranging from 600 to 2400 • Scale ranging from 200 to 800 for Critical Reading; 200 to 800 for Mathematics; 200 to 800 for Writing • Essay results scaled to multiple-choice Writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale ranging from 400 to 1600 • Scale ranging from 200 to 800 for Evidence-Based Reading and Writing; 200 to 800 for Math; 2 to 8 on each of three traits for Essay • Essay results reported separately
Subscore Reporting	None	Subscores for every test, providing added insight for students, parents, admission officers, educators, and counselors

Comparison of Score Components: Current SAT vs. Redesigned SAT		
Component	Current SAT	Redesigned SAT
Composite Score	0	1
Area Scores	2	2
Test Scores	N/A	3 plus Essay scores
Cross-Test Scores	N/A	2
Subscores	N/A	7

Looking for more information? Go to www.collegeboard.com/

Practice questions	Test-Taking Approaches
The SAT Essay	Practice Test
Math Review	PSAT/NMSQT Extra

Also check out the **Testing & Education Reference Center (TERC)** through the school website. This free resource allows you to use test prep eBooks and take on-line practice tests for AP, PSAT, ACT, SAT, SAT subject tests, CAHSEE, ASVAB, and more. Log on through the school website at www.saratogahigh.org>Library> **Digital Resources> Testing & Education Reference Center.** Students can use the password “falcons” to gain free access

SAT Subject Tests: (www.collegeboard.com)

The SAT Subject Tests measure the student's knowledge and skills in a particular subject and ability to apply that knowledge.

1. About the SAT Subject Test:

- Subject Tests fall into five general areas: English, history-social science, sciences, foreign language and mathematics. The University of California will accept only Math 2, not Math 1.
- All tests are one-hour, multiple-choice tests.
- Subject tests should be taken as soon as possible after the course ends so the information is still fresh in the student's mind
- Up to three tests may be taken in one sitting

2. Other information:

- Not all colleges require SAT Subject Tests. The UCs accept two tests in different subject areas for the previously mentioned categories

Source: The College Board

ACT (American College Testing): (www.actstudent.org)

This test measures a student's skill in English, mathematics, reading and science reasoning.

1. About the ACT:

- The ACT consists of tests in four areas: English, mathematics, reading, and science reasoning
- Each of these tests contains multiple-choice questions that offer either four or five answer choices from which a student chooses the correct, or best, answer

The English Test

- A 75-question, 45-minute test that measures a student's understanding of standard written English (punctuation, grammar and usage, and sentence structure) and of rhetorical skills (strategy, organization, and style)

The Mathematics Test

- A 60-question, 60-minute test designed to assess the mathematical skills students have typically acquired in courses taken up to the beginning of grade 12

The Reading Test

- A 40-question, 35-minute test that measures students' reading comprehension as a product of their skill in referring and reasoning

The Science Reasoning Test

- A 40-question, 35-minute test that measures the interpretation, analysis, evaluation, reasoning, and problem-solving skills required in the natural sciences

Optional Writing Test

- Some colleges will use the results in addition to the information they are now using. Each college will make its own decision about whether to require, recommend or not require a Writing Test. Students should decide whether to take it based on the admission policies of the colleges they are considering. Information about individual college policies regarding the Writing Test will be routinely updated on the ACT website. Students should consult the list before registering for the test. The scoring is similar to the method used for the current SAT Writing Test. The University of California will only accept an ACT with the Writing Test.

The majority of colleges will accept either the SAT Reasoning Test or the ACT

Proposed Testing Schedule:

Sophomore Year:	PSAT (if appropriate)	October 28, 2015
	SAT Subject Test (if appropriate)	June 4, 2016
Junior Year:	PSAT	October 2016
	SAT Reasoning Test	March, May, or June 2017
	ACT	Feb, April or June 2017
	SAT Subject Tests	June 2017
Senior Year:	SAT Reasoning Test or ACT with Writing or SAT Subject Tests (if needed)	October 2017
	SAT Reasoning Test or SAT Subject Tests (if needed)	November 2017
	SAT Reasoning Test or ACT with Writing or SAT Subject Tests (if needed)	December 2017

ADDITIONAL TESTING INFORMATION

ADDITIONAL TESTING INFORMATION

1. Subject knowledge (as in algebra, geometry, and English) plus test familiarity (as provided by the P SAT) are what primarily contribute to solid SAT or ACT scores.
2. Prep courses may help, but the degree of help depends on the student's individual strengths, weaknesses, and willingness to study.
3. The best time to schedule an SAT Subject Test is at the completion of the course.
4. An SAT Reasoning Test and SAT Subject Tests cannot be scheduled on the same day. Up to three SAT Subject Tests may be scheduled on the same day.
5. Check pre-professional, engineering, science and architectural requirements for special SAT Subject Tests needed. For private college examination requirements, refer to college catalogs or websites.
6. Registration materials are available online. For the SAT, go to www.collegeboard.com. For the ACT, go to www.actstudent.org. Online registration is quick, efficient and preferred. Information is also available in the Guidance Office and College/Career Center. Register at least five weeks in advance of the test dates.
7. Be sure that all schools and scholarship programs in which you are interested are included in the "Report to Schools" part of the application form and that the correct fees are included in the application.
8. For additional information on "prep" courses, SAT and ACT fees and test dates, ask in the Guidance Office or College/Career Center. There is an up-to-date list of many local "prep" services with fees and dates, as well as "prep" books. The information is offered for your reference. Specific programs are not recommended.
9. If you are eligible for a waiver of test fees, pick up waiver forms in the Guidance Office. For many colleges, you must have qualified for an SAT or ACT fee waiver to be eligible for application fee waivers.

COLLEGE AND CAREER CENTER WAYS WE CAN HELP

- Registration information for the SAT and ACT
- A list of SAT and ACT preparation programs and Tutoring resources
- Course catalogs and brochures for California and out-of-state colleges, both public and private
- Scheduled visits by college representatives who talk about their schools and answer specific questions and video recordings of these visits posted to the school website.
- Application workshops for UCs and CSUs
- Reference materials on careers, colleges, scholarships, and test preparation.
- Financial aid/scholarship information and resources
- A file of summer programs and opportunities
- Resources available for check-out to students
- A file of volunteer opportunities
- Job board and work permits
- College and Career Center Web Page on the SHS School Website with many of the above resources
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HOURS:

Monday	7:45 AM - 3:10 PM
Wednesday	9:15 AM – 3:10 PM
Tuesday and Thursday	7:45 AM - 3:10 PM
Friday	7:45 AM - 12:40 PM

Bonnie Sheikh, College and Career Center Coordinator
867-3411 x 401

Saratoga High School has a site license for an internet accessible software program, called *Naviance* that allows for easy-to use, tailor-made college searches. Students have established their own account at <http://connection.naviance.com/saratogahigh>. If you have any questions, be sure to come to the Guidance Office.

Important Saratoga High School Facts

- 1 To graduate from Saratoga High School, a student must earn **220 credits**, pass all **required subjects** and the **California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)**.
2. **A semester class is worth 5 credits; a year class (two semesters) is worth 10 credits.** Most students earn 30-35 credits each semester (60-70 credits each year).
3. Students must earn a minimum of **50 credits** to qualify for **sophomore** standing; **100 credits** for **junior** standing; **150 credits** for **senior** standing.
4. **Failed classes (including W/F's) earn no credits. W/F's are computed in the GPA as an "F" grade and remain on the transcript.** Required classes that are failed must be repeated until they are passed.
5. **Course titles and grades are never removed from the transcript.** (Grades are never removed even if a course is repeated and a higher grade is earned.)
6. College prep courses are designated by a **(P)**; honors courses by an **(H)**; advanced placement courses by an **(AP)** on the transcript.
7. The Saratoga High School *weighted* **GPA** includes all **semester grades in all courses.** **(H)** and **(AP)** courses in grades 9-12 receive one extra grade point for "C" or higher grades.
8. **Progress Reports** are available every 6 weeks. The six week and twelve week progress reports are posted on Aeries. The semester **report cards** are mailed home. January and June grades are final semester grades and are recorded on the **transcript**.
9. **Eligibility Requirements:** To be eligible to compete in **sports** and participate in **extracurricular activities**, students must maintain a **2.0** or **higher GPA**.
10. A **Tutorial Period** is scheduled on Monday from 9:29 - 10:05 AM, Wednesday from 2:40 - 3:10 PM and Friday from 9:25 - 10:05 AM. Students are encouraged to use this opportunity to seek extra help, make up tests, and complete work in any class. Teachers may require tutorial attendance.
11. Saratoga High School utilizes **Naviance** a leading provider of web based planning and advising systems for secondary schools and their students. Each student is assigned a unique account to assist them as they begin their college search and application process. Students can access their account through the school website under Academics>Naviance or at <https://connection.naviance.com/fc/signin.php?hsid=saratogahigh>.