

## DS High School Hours Spent on Each Course

Each high school course is worth one credit hour, or Carnegie Unit. In order to earn one credit hour, a student must have 120 hours of class time (see Wikipedia article following that gives the definition of Carnegie Unit).

Discovery School follows the government school calendar. If we subtract one week from each trimester because students stay at home during the week after exams, this means that students are in school for 15 weeks during the first trimester, 12 during the second trimester, and 11 weeks during the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester (see sample calendar on the right) .

This is a total of 38 weeks in the classroom. Students in our secondary program spend five 45- minute classroom hours on each course each week. So, over the course of one school year, their hours of class time in each course can be calculated as

$38 \times 5 \times 45 = 8,550$  minutes, or 142.5 hours.

This is well above the 120 hours needed to qualify as a full credit hour.

Since each credit hour demands the same amount of class time each week, the value of a particular subject in the high school program can only be seen over time as we look at the number of credit hours in that subject required for graduation with the Advanced College Preparatory Diploma, as seen in the table below. Most DS students will earn an Advanced College Preparatory Diploma with a total of 30 credit hours.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Credit Hours Required to Graduate with Advanced College Prep Diploma</b>	<b>Clock hours spent in class earning each credit (5hrs per week)</b>	<b>Total clock hours spent on this subject during 4 years of secondary school (Clock hours x Total Credit Hours required)</b>	<b>Total time in minutes during 4 years of secondary school (Total hours x 60)</b>	<b>Total class hours during 4 years of secondary school (Total minutes divided by 45 min.)</b>
Math	4	142.5	570	34,200	760
English	4	142.5	570	34,200	760
Science	3	142.5	427.5	25,650	570
Social Studies	3	142.5	427.5	25,650	570
World Languages (French)	3	142.5	427.5	25,650	570
Technology	1	142.5	142.5	8,550	190
Sports/Health	2	142.5	290.4	17,100	380
Bible	2	142.5	290.4	17,100	380
Life Skills	1	142.5	142.5	8550	190
Electives (Choice Academy Courses)	6	142.5	855	51,300	1,140

Some students, with special permission from the Academic Office, may graduate from Discovery School with a regular College Preparatory Diploma. This is for cases like students who enter the school in G12 without knowing any French and are only able to pass two levels of French before graduation, or students who fail several courses and spend some of time designated for choice courses repeating core courses. This is the table of time spent on each subject for those students, who are required to earn a total of 27 credits.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Credit Hours Required to Graduate with College Prep Diploma</b>	<b>Clock hours spent in class earning each credit (5hrs per week)</b>	<b>Total clock hours spent on this subject during 4 years of secondary school (Clock hours x Total Credit Hours required)</b>	<b>Total time in minutes during 4 years of secondary school (Total hours x 60)</b>	<b>Total class hours during 4 years of secondary school (Total minutes divided by 45 min.)</b>
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Sports/Health	2	142.5	290.4	17,100	380
Bible	2	142.5	290.4	17,100	380
Life Skills	1	142.5	142.5	8550	190
Fine Arts	1	142.5	142.5	8550	190
Electives (Choice Academy Courses)	4	142.5	570	34,200	760

The typical US high school requires 26 credits to graduate (See the highlighted section on page 4 of the Wikipedia Course credit article attached).