



Preparation for College and Beyond

Sylvan Prep Academy (SPA) is a 501C3 non-profit educational foundation that operates a private school for students in the Upper Cumberland area of Middle Tennessee. Sylvan Prep High School is an academic program for 9th through 12th grade students. It strives to assist each individual in realizing his or her potential by developing strengths, remediating weaknesses and experiencing success.

The relationship between the teacher and student encourages participation and a willingness to attempt difficult skills. The positive, success-oriented nature of the program facilitates learning, as well as improves self-concept and motivation. This approach includes the following curriculum, which also permits honors courses in all subjects:

1. At least **four English courses**. Students will read about eight books a year, write short papers weekly and write at least one research paper each year. The focus is on college-prep reading, writing and presentation skills.

2. At least **four credits in math** including Algebra I, geometry, Algebra II and a fourth, higher-level math class or a specially developed math course designed to prepare students for college so they can avoid taking remedial math.

3. At least **three college-prep science courses** such as biology, chemistry, physics, applied physics or anatomy and physiology. Students conduct lab experiments, complete research projects and study multiple books or articles about scientists, scientific discoveries and how science is used in the real world.

4. At least **four college-prep social studies courses**. Students also will read at least five books or articles, write weekly, make presentations, complete research projects and prepare at least one major research paper in each course.

5. At least **one fine arts course**.

6. At least **two credits in a foreign language**.

7. A **college prep essentials course package** of ACT Prep, College Prep Writing, Advanced Reading Strategies, and Study Skills Boot Camp.

8. **One half credit personal finance course** and **one half credit ethics course**.

10. At least **one credit community service project course**.



All SPA students participate in a curriculum that is cutting-edge, yet easy-to-use, with a variety of technology resources and hands-on materials. Learning from both home and our teaching center in Cookeville students work closely with “learning coaches” and a licensed Tennessee teacher using detailed lesson plans that can be personalized to meet individual student needs. Accountability is central to the school’s mission and students must meet the same levels of accountability and complete the same state standardize tests.

In our unique Individualized Performance Learning approach, students use daily lesson plans and curriculum materials and their progress is tracked through a proprietary, web-based Learning Management System. Limitations that may be imposed by location are gone, replaced by flexibility, personalization, and the highest of academic standards. SPA serves a wide range of students, including those who are significantly ahead or behind in the classroom; students who benefit from more individualized instruction; or who require a more flexible school schedule.

For admittance to the Sylvan Prep Academy upper level high school program, 10th – 12th grades, on a full-time or part-time basis, students must have previously earned at least 6 high school credits. Full-time students may take up to 8 credits each academic year. This allows them to finish high school in 3 years.

Part-time students may take from 1 to 5 courses. Full-time students are required to attend class on-site at least 16 hours per week between the hours of 8am to 5pm for morning or afternoon sections depending on scheduling. Each student who attends SPA high school is required to have his or her own personal laptop equipped for wireless connectivity to the Internet.

SPA High School is credentialed by AdvancedEd and by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). Credits earned at SPA are accepted at schools, colleges and universities

around the world.

High School Graduation Requirements

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| English: | 4 credits |
| Mathematics: | 4 credits |
| Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry and 4th course | |
| Science | 3 credits |
| Biology, Chemistry, and 3rd course | |
| Social Studies: | 4 credits |
| Fine Arts | 1 credit |
| Foreign Language | 2 credits |
| Personal Finance and Ethics | 1 credit |
| College Prep Package | 1 credit |
| Community Service Project | 1 credit |
| Electives or Dual Credit Courses | 3 credits |
| Total | 24 credits |

Students who have: 1) at least a 19 on the ACT, 2) finished a minimum of 12 earned credits, and 3) a 3.0 grade point average may choose to take Dual Credit courses at Nashville Tech or AP Courses through SPA which will allow them to earn college credit as well as high school credit.

