# MEMORIA PRESS ONLINE ACADEMY

# **High School Diploma Program**

An Overview



Docere, Delectare, Movere

To Teach, To delight, To move

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#### The Basics

High School is an important time in the life of every student and family, and every parent wants to make the right decision for their student. Since 2006 we've provided high-quality, live online classes for homeschool students all over the world. Our Online Academy ensures that students are supported with evenly paced courses, engaged by knowledgeable instructors, and challenged by a rigorous curriculum.

Starting in the 2017-18 school year, we will accept applications for our High School Diploma Program. Most students entering the diploma program will probably be entering in the 9th or 10th grade. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis, in which case we will require a comprehensive homeschool transcript after we obtain the results of the Entrance Exams. For the 2017-18 school year all entrance exams must be taken by March 15 of each year. The due date for this may be extended but we cannot guarantee that this will be so.

The High School Diploma Program is a challenging yet *doable* program, to which any hard-working student is welcome to apply. To graduate students must maintain a certain level of academic excellence throughout the program, complete specific course requirements as well as required testing.

Each student graduating will earn 28 credits. Students will take five online classes and two other classes. These two might include other online classes, additional Memoria Press Online Academy classes (extra cost), local co-op classes, community college classes, or homeschool classes taught by the parent. To award credit for these classes, some minimal documentation is required. For example, a small sampling of quizzes, mid-terms, exams, or essays that we will ask you to upload to an electronic folder. Below is a specific breakdown of what is required for graduation:

**Latin:** 4 credits (one of which must be a translation class)

Math: 3 credits 3 credits Science: 4 credits History: Writing: 2 credits Literature: 3 credits 2 credits Logic: .5 credits American Government: **Electives:** 6.5 credits

**Total Credits: 28** 

# **Application**

Parents and students interested in the diploma program should fill out the application online. The application includes a \$25 application fee and an entrance test. Submission of an application and entrance test is not a guarantee of acceptance into the program. You will receive a confirmation email after your application and entrance exam are received. When a decision is made about your student's acceptance into the program, you will be notified by the Director.

#### Costs

Costs are kept to a minimum and a payment plan is available. The yearly cost per student is:

Application Fee: \$25

**Enrollment Fee:** \$200 per student

**5 Live Online Classes:** \$2500 **2 Non-MP or Homeschool Class:** \$0\*

**Books**Book fees separate; Can be obtained from any seller

### Consultation

Once you have registered to take the Entrance Exams and have filled out the application information, you should have your student take the entrance exams.

If a student is not accepted into the diploma program because of his or her score on the Entrance Exam, this in no way means that the student cannot take individual courses through Memoria Press Online Academy. Students are still free to take any and all courses that they choose and we urge you to do so. If a student is not accepted into the High School Diploma Program for the 9th grade year you may apply again for the 10th grade year.

<sup>\*</sup>minimal documentation required; we do not determine curriculum for these classes

# **Maintaining Good Standing**

Students must maintain an overall average of 83% (B) for all courses each year enrolled.

# **Testing Requirements**

There are several rigorous testing requirements. Students are required to take all of these assessments to graduate. Families must arrange to take these tests locally and have the scores reported to Memoria Press Online Academy by (1) scanning the documents or (2) having these directly reported to us (our College Board code is 564 for AP Exams).

**PSAT:** Taken during the Fall of the junior year. Many students also take the PSAT their sophomore year to get a feel for what the test is like. Scores from this test are used to determine National Merit Scholars (only scores from the junior year). The PSAT code varies by state.

**SAT or ACT:** SAT is taken during the Spring of the junior year. The SAT high school code homeschool students is 970000. The ACT is taken during the Fall of the senior year. The ACT school code for homeschool student is 969-999. With both tests, the scores are sent directly to the student's home.

**Advanced Placement:** One AP Exam for an AP class taken through the Online Academy.

### Accreditation, College Board, and NCAA

Memoria Press Online Academy is accredited by the *Classical Latin School Association*. Accreditation is meant to help our students earn an accredited high school diploma while simultaneously receiving a rigorous classical education. In conjunction with the Classical Latin School Association, we select our curriculum, teachers, and academic standards. We also use standards of excellence and general testing to ensure MPOA Diploma Program students are exceeding all requirements that a college or university would expect.

Memoria Press Online Academy is also a College Board approved Online Provider of Advanced Placement courses. Our school code is 564. Any class you see with the AP designation is College Board approved.

Memoria Press Online Academy also has most of the core courses approved by the NCAA. These courses can be used toward a student's NCAA eligibility for colleges and universities.

# State-By-State Breakdown of Graduation Requirements

While we have done much of the legwork in designing our program, please ensure that you follow all of your state's laws and guidelines for homeschooling. Many states have high school graduation requirements that universities use (among other things) when evaluating applicants. The Diploma Program was designed and organized to meet or exceed the requirements in all 50 states and is completely consistent with the homeschooling law in all 50 states. We designed our program this way in the event your student decides to attend a university in your state of residence. If you already know where your student may want to attend university or college, see the institution's website for their specific expectations from homeschool applicants. Please note that occasionally standards change from state-to-state and you must follow all applicable homeschooling laws and stay aware of this information.

Each state has its own high school graduation requirements. In some states no requirements exist, only guidelines. In other states there are minimums and other requirements are determined locally. Remember, you are still technically considered a homeschooled student in your state, but you are simultaneously in a High School diploma program with Memoria Press Online Academy; you do not have to pursue everything someone in a public or private school may pursue in your state. That is the part of the freedom of homeschooling! But you will be able to see what universities will expect from high school graduates, and rest assured that our diploma program exceeds these academic requirements in every respect. Please note as well that some states require state-specific testing requirements as well (i.e. MA, NY, PA, RI, VT). The main goal here is to provide some information so you can see the broad categories and any specifics your state uses. See the link below.

See this link for state-by-state requirements from HSLDA.

# Specific Subject Notes and Credit Requirements for Graduation

**Credits from 7th and 8th grade:** Practices on accepting high school credit from grades 7 and 8 vary by state and institution. It is our position that <u>some</u> courses taken in grades 7 and 8 can be considered for high school credit. If a student is accepted into the diploma program we will consider these classes or coursework on a case-by-case basis, up to a maximum of 6 credits for grades 7 and 8. Naturally, we can more effectively evaluate classes that were taken with MPOA during grades 7 and 8. Generally speaking, no course work prior to 7th grade will be accepted.

**Please note:** If for some reason a student has taken some of these classes previously (e.g. First Form Latin or some Classical Composition at a younger age) then there are some adjustments and substitutions that can be made.

**Latin:** Must complete four years of Latin, one of which must be a translation class. If First Form Latin is taken in 9th, SFL must be taken the following summer. Students in 9th grade with no Latin background are advised to take Henle Latin I, Units 1-5. 4 credits. Classes that count as translation are: Henle Latin II: Caesar, Henle Latin III: Cicero, AP Latin.

**Math:** Pre-Algebra should be completed prior to 9th grade, but if taken in 9th grade it will not count for credit. Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II are required for graduation. 3 credits.

**Science:** No specific classes required. Parental requirements take precedence. 3 credits.

**History:** Must take Classical Studies I and II, American, European, or World History. 4 credits.

**Literature:** English Literature III: The Divine Comedy is the only required class for Literature. Beyond this requirements take precedence. 3 credits.

Logic: Must take Logic I & II, Material Logic, and Classical Rhetoric. 2 credits.

**Writing:** Must take either Foundations for Composition and High School Composition I or High School Composition I and II. 2 credits.

**American Government:** American Government is required. .5 credits.

**Electives:** These credits can be used to satisfy specific requirements, or also to add extra science and math classes or any other classes a student wishes to take. 7 credits.

\*AP: Must take at least one AP class and the exam that corresponds to this class.

# **Diploma Worksheet**

7th Grade Classes - 3 classes maximum can be counted toward Diploma							
Subject	Course Title	Credit	Notes				
Latin			NLE tests are optional but				
Math			encouraged. NLE Intro can be taken if student is taking Second or Third Form.				
Science							
History							
Literature							
Writing							
Logic & Rhetoric							
Homeschool/Non-MP Class							
Homeschool/Non-MP Class							

Notes:

8th Grade Classes - 3 classes maximum can be counted toward Diploma							
Subject	Course Title	Credit	Notes				
Latin			NLE tests are optional but				
Math			encouraged, and you should take whatever NLE level is				
Science			appropriate.				
History							
Literature							
Writing							
Logic & Rhetoric							
Homeschool/Non-MP Class							
Homeschool/Non-MP Class							

Notes:

# **Diploma Worksheet**

9th Grade Classes							
Subject	Course Title	Credit	Notes				
Latin			NLE tests are optional but				
Math			encouraged, and you should take whatever NLE level is				
Science			appropriate.				
History			If applicable, an AP class and exam.				
Literature							
Writing							
Logic & Rhetoric							
American Government							
Homeschool/Non-MP Class/Elective							
Homeschool/Non-MP Class/Elective/ Extra MPOA class							

### Notes:

10th Grade Classes						
Subject	Course Title	Credit	Notes			
Latin			NLE tests are optional but encouraged, and you should			
Math			take whatever NLE level is			
Science			appropriate.			
History			If applicable, an AP class and exam.			
Literature						
Writing						
Logic & Rhetoric						
American Government						
Homeschool/Non-MP Class/Elective						
Homeschool/Non-MP Class/Elective/ Extra MPOA class						

# Notes:

# **Diploma Worksheet**

11th Grade Classes						
Subject	Course Title	Credit	Notes			
Latin			PSAT is taken in the Fall			
Math			semester. Homeschool code for the test varies by state and ca			
Science			be found here.			
History			If applicable, an AP class and exam.			
Literature						
Writing						
Logic & Rhetoric						
American Government						
Homeschool/Non-MP Class/Elective						
Homeschool/Non-MP Class/Elective/ Extra MPOA class						

### Notes:

12th Grade Classes						
Subject	Course Title	Credit	Notes			
Latin			Take the SAT or ACT this year.			
Math						
Science						
History						
Literature						
Writing						
Logic & Rhetoric						
American Government						
Homeschool/Non-MP Class/Elective						
Homeschool/Non-MP Class/Elective/ Extra MPOA class						

# Notes:

# **Diploma Totals**

Course Requirements	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
Latin (4 credits)						
Math (3 credits)						
Science (3 credits)						
History (4 credits)						
Literature (3 credits)						
Writing (2 credits)						
Logic/Rhetoric (2 credits)						
American Gov't (.5 credits)						
Electives (6.5 credits)						

Testing Requirements	7th Grade	8th Grade	9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
PSAT						
SAT or ACT						
AP Exam						

Other Requirements	Yes	No
All tests scores mailed or reported to MP?		
Overall grade average of B in all classes (83%)?		

**Latin:** Must complete four years of Latin, one of which must be a translation class. If First Form Latin is taken in 9th, SFL must be taken the following summer. Students in 9th grade with no Latin background are advised to take Henle Latin I, 1-5. Classes that count as translation are: Henle Latin II: Caesar, Henle Latin III: Cicero, AP Latin.

**Math:** Pre-Algebra should be completed before 9th grade, but if taken 9th grade it will not count for credit. Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II are required for graduation. More Mathematics courses may be taken with electives.

**Science:** No specific classes required. More Science courses may be taken with electives.

History: Must take Classical Studies I and II, American, European History, or World History.

Literature: The Divine Comedy. Parental requirements take precedence after this.

Logic: Must take Logic I & II, Material Logic, and Classical Rhetoric.

Writing: Must take either Foundations for Composition and High School Composition I or High School Composition I and II.

American Government: Must take American Government

**Electives:** Can be used to satisfy specific state, parental requirements, additional Math and Science classes, or other classes the students and parents wish to take.

AP: Must take at least one AP class and the exam that corresponds to this class.

# **High School Diploma Program Quick Facts**

### Will I be able to consult with anyone about classes, the program, the school, etc.?

Yes. The personal relationship that Memoria Press Academy has with families is a hallmark of our school. For accepted Diploma Program students our goal is to have personal contact by telephone each month to answer any questions or concerns. We have no "levels of service" - everyone in the Diploma Program is treated equitably and personally. If at any point you need to speak to us, simply give us a call.

### When should I apply to the program?

All applications should be completed and all Entrance Exams should be taken by March 15th. Beyond this date we may continue to accept applications but we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

#### Does each student have to take the Entrance Exams?

Yes. Each applicant must register to fill out the application and take the Entrance Exams. This is a similar set of Entrance Exams that we use at our physical school, The Highlands Latin School. One exam covers word definitions, along with a two-part reading test, and a four-part mathematics exam. The math exams cover arithmetic, Pre-Algebra, and Algebra I. If a student is currently taking Pre-Algebra or Algebra I then they do not need to take the exam for that particular class. An Algebra I student applying would take the arithmetic and Pre-Algebra exams. Then we will evaluate Algebra I once the student has completed that course of study.

### Is the cost competitive? How much does the High School Diploma Program cost?

Yes. The overall cost is 1/2 to 2/3 less than other private schools. There are four main costs associated with the High School Diploma Program: Application and Entrance Exam Fee: \$25, Yearly Enrollment Fee: \$200, 5 Live classes: \$2,500, plus books. Books are purchased separately to allow you to obtain them at the most affordable price possible. Additional online classes can be taken at a 10% discount.

### Do you have a payment plan?

Yes. Everyone accepted into the High School Diploma Program will receive a registration form that an ACH payment plan. Families may also pay all fees in full via credit card or check.

### Will you include previous course work that my student has completed?

Yes. Each student who is accepted into the program has their transcript evaluated for this. We accept a limited number of credits from 7th and 8th grade, provided they are at a high school level. Students who have taken classes with Memoria Press are already in the system so this is easy to check. All work completed previously that is evaluated and approved is added to the student's transcript.

#### Do I have to take all of my classes in the Diploma Program through Memoria Press?

No. A student who graduates from the Diploma Program will earn a total of <u>at least</u> 28 credits. Diploma Program take 5 live classes with Memoria Press Online Academy each year and are allowed 2 classes outside the Online Academy. These 2 classes can be taken at home, a community college, or elsewhere. We do request documentation upon completion.

### Is this an "Honors" program?

Yes and No. We believe that a single, rigorous academic track, with an appropriate amount of flexibility as well as general requirements for ALL students, provides the best overall trajectory for most students. "Honors" is an ambiguous term that means different things to different people and organizations. We prefer one rigorous yet flexible program that can be tailored for individual needs and preferences.

### Do you offer AP or other Dual Enrollment? Are your courses approved for NCAA Eligibility?

Yes. Our Online Provider code is 564. Most of our high school classes can also be used toward NCAA eligibility.

Can I withdraw from the Diploma Program? What if I decide that it isn't a good fit for my student? Should you decide that the Diploma Program is not right for your student you are under no compulsion to continue the following year. All withdrawals must be requested by the end of the second week of live classes and are subject to the same drop fees per course that normally apply. However, the \$200 yearly Enrollment Fee is non-refundable. For example, if your student is registered for 5 live classes the total payment is \$2,700. Should you withdraw completely you would be refunded \$2,125, provided it is by the end of the second week of class. For 2017-18 all drops must be requested by September 22, 2017 by 5:00 pm Eastern time. No refunds for the Diploma Program or any other course registration are given after the end of the first two weeks of class.