

Welcome Class of 2023

Somerville High School



**Incoming Freshmen
Scheduling Workshop
January 16, 2019**

SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL
222 Davenport Street, Somerville, NJ 08876
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CLASS OF 2023
MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Approved by New Jersey Board of Education

Subject	Years	Credits
English English 1, English 2, English 3, and English 4	4	20
Mathematics Mathematics must include content equivalent to Algebra 1, Geometry, and one year of rigorous math	3	15
Science Science must include Biology, as well as Chemistry or Environmental Science or Physics, and one other science	3	15
Social Studies Social Studies must include one year of World History and two years of U.S. History per N.J.A.C.18A:35	3	15
Visual and Performing Arts	1	5
21st Century Life and Careers	1	5
Financial Economic Business and Entrepreneurial Literacy Somerville students complete this requirement through a free online course	0.5	2.5
World Language Students who are able to demonstrate proficiency in a World Language may be exempted from the state requirement	1	5
Health and Physical Education 150 minutes per week of Health & Physical Education for each year of enrollment as per N.J.A.C.18A:35	4	20
Electives aligned to NJ Student Learning Standards Elective credit will vary according to student interest and goals	4	20

PARCC TESTING REQUIREMENTS*

*CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW BY THE NJDOE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

As per NJDOE regulations, all students in the Class of 2023 are required to earn a proficient score on the ELA10 and Algebra 1 PARCC assessments. In addition, students are required to sit for the PARCC exam for any English or Math course in which they are enrolled. These courses are English 1, English 2, English 3, Algebra 1, Geometry and Algebra 2.

GRADUATION PATHWAYS

Pathway Name	Overview	Eligibility and Application
Traditional	This pathway allows students to take 7 classes per year that align with NJ Graduation Requirements and includes all elective offerings within the high school course catalog.	Open to all Somerville High School students. No application is required.
Honors Program	Students may apply to the Somerville High School Honors Program on a course-by-course basis. Honors and Advanced Placement courses are available in all content areas except Art, Business, and Physical Education.	Open to all Somerville High School students who meet the required Honors Program qualifications and complete the required application.
Concentrated Pathway Art, Business, Computer Science, Engineering, Music	Somerville High School offers a four year course sequence in all elective content areas for students who wish to pursue advanced coursework in these areas.	Open to all Somerville High School students. Students who aim to take upper-level electives are advised to start this pathway in freshman year to help maximize the number of courses that can be completed prior to graduation.
Somerville Academy for Liberal Arts (SALA)	SALA students earn a High School Diploma and Associate's Degree from RVCC concurrently. Students move through the program in a cohort model with a prescribed course load and attend RVCC full-time in the fourth year. Scheduling is coordinated to allow full participation in extracurricular sports and activities at the high school. Tuition for this program is shared between the student, the District, and RVCC.	Interested students must meet Honors Program requirements and complete the required application. This application includes an essay, placement testing, an interview, and teacher recommendations.
Somerville Medical Sciences Academy (SMSA)	SMSA students complete a concentrated coursework in the Allied Health Care and Biological Science while also receiving field experience and job shadowing at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital at Somerset.	Interested students must meet Honors Program requirements in Math and Biology and complete the required application. This application includes an essay and teacher recommendations.
Somerville Science Technology Engineering Math Academy (STEM) Computer Support Program	In partnership with RVCC, the STEM Academy provides students with a certificate of completion that addresses the need for qualified individuals to fill positions as computer support specialists, help desk technicians and junior-level systems administrators. Credits earned in this program can be applied to the Computer Support Certificate Program at RVCC.	An application found on the Somerville High School website is required. This application includes an essay.

<p>LaRue Public Relations Internship Program</p>	<p>During Senior year, eligible students can apply for an internship experience with Somerville-based, LaRue PR, a public relations firm focused on fashion marketing.</p>	<p>Interested students must have completed prerequisite coursework in the Art and Business content areas and completed the required application. Students are expected to provide their own transportation.</p>
<p>Somerset County VoTech Shared-Time</p>	<p>Somerset County Vocational and Technical High School in Bridgewater offers a shared time program that offers training and instruction in over 15 disciplines. Students complete core coursework at Somerville H.S. and are bussed to and from VoTech for a portion of their day.</p>	<p>An application through SCVTHS is required. Acceptance is determined by SCVTHS.</p>

HONORS PROGRAM AT SOMERVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

Somerville offers a complete four-year honors program in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Spanish, and French. Admission is limited to those students who meet the established criteria and requires a separate application process. The high standards of these courses are the hallmark of the program and serve as indicators of exceptional work to colleges and universities. Once enrolled at Somerville High School, students must maintain a year-end average of 80% or better in any honors courses in order to continue in the honors track in that content area. Advanced Placement (AP) courses may replace honors courses at the 11th and 12th grade levels. The availability of AP courses is determined according to the number of student requests.

Honors placement for incoming freshmen is based on the following criteria:

- An average of 90% or higher in the content area based on the first and second marking periods of the student’s 8th grade year.
For 8th grade students enrolled in Geometry, a mid-year average of 80 or higher is required to qualify for Algebra 2H.
- A Student Self-Assessment Questionnaire.
- A signed Honors Program Agreement form.
- Students who do not meet the grade criteria of a 90% or better at mid-year of grade 8 may appeal to have his/her grades averaged at the end of the 3rd marking period. At such time, if the course average is a 90% or above, the student will qualify for participation.

Specific courses in each sequence are:

Grade	English	Science	Social Studies	World Language
9	English 1H	Biology H	World Studies H	Spanish 2H or French 2H
10	English 2H	Chemistry H	US History 1H	Spanish 3H or French 3H
11	English 3H	Physics H or AP Physics 1	AP US History	Spanish 4H or French 4H
12	AP English Lit or English 4CP/Comp1	AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics 2	AP Gov and Pol * AP European Hist * AP Human Geo	AP Spanish or AP French

**Courses offered on alternate years*

There are two sequences for mathematics depending on the student's 9th grade course:

Grade	Mathematics	Mathematics
9	Geometry H	Algebra 2H
10	Algebra 2H	Pre-Calculus H
11	Pre-Calculus H	AP Calculus AB or BC
12	AP Calculus AB or BC	AP Statistics



SOMERVILLE ACADEMY FOR LIBERAL ARTS



Class of 2023

The Somerville Academy for Liberal Arts (SALA) is a partnership between Somerville High School (SHS) and Raritan Valley Community College (RVCC) that allows students to earn an Associate of Arts degree in Liberal Arts while simultaneously earning a high school diploma. Upon graduation, students have an opportunity to transfer the associate's degree to a four-year college or university into which they gain admission.

Program Goals

The SALA program features a cohort model and learning community as the core of its accelerated academic experience. The program is a four-year, full-time program that prepares students for the rigor of a full-time schedule of college coursework in the 11th and 12th grades.

Instruction

During the Freshmen year, coursework is comprised primarily of SHS Honors courses, with students completing two single-semester college-level courses. In Sophomore and Junior years, the number of college-level courses is gradually increased, leading to full-time college coursework in Senior year. The curriculum and course selections are designed to meet both Somerville High School and RVCC graduation requirements.

Admission Process

Students are selected for one of the seats based on the following criteria:

- Qualify for English 1H, Biology H, and World Studies H, as well as qualify for either Algebra 2H or Geometry H
- Teacher recommendations (2)
- Accuplacer Testing in Writing and Mathematics through RVCC
- RVCC Interview
- Students must maintain a 3.0 grade point average to remain in the program

Application Deadline: January 31, 2019

***Only rising 9th grade students may apply
Acceptance letters mailed in early May 2019***



SOMERVILLE MEDICAL SCIENCES ACADEMY



Class of 2023

The Somerville Medical Sciences Academy (SMSA) is a unique partnership with Somerville High School (SHS) and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital (RWJ) as a result of the Somerville Board of Education's strategic planning process. Students who are accepted into SMSA spend a portion of their day at RWJ for courses in the areas of biological science and allied health care while taking advantage of RWJ's first class medical facility and equipment.

Program Goals

SMSA students will gain varied and exciting experiences in a hospital setting that cannot be duplicated in a regular classroom or traditional high school. Students will learn first-hand about the many health care careers available and gain valuable knowledge, skills and experiences. The program also offers students who are passionate about math and science the opportunity to work side-by-side with medical professionals and dive deeper into the content while preparing for future careers in the medical sciences field.

Instruction

SMSA students spend a portion of their day at RWJ where they complete Honors-level Science coursework that is aligned with NJ State Graduation requirements. Instruction is provided by SHS teachers who, in turn, collaborate with RWJ personnel to provide various lab and field-specific experiences throughout the school year.

Admission Process

Students are selected for one of the seats based on the following criteria:

- Completion of online application (includes an essay component)
- Teacher Recommendation Forms (e-form submitted by SHS to student's math and science teachers upon receipt of student's application)

Application Deadline: January 31, 2019

***Only rising 9th grade students may apply
Acceptance letters mailed in early May 2019***

GENERAL SCHEDULING INFO

- Somerville High School follows a 9-period bell schedule, with each course meeting once per day for 40 minutes. Lab sciences meet for 80 minutes once per week (in lieu of PE/Health)
- Students are expected to carry 35 credits per year. Each year-long course is worth 5 credits (lab sciences are worth 6). A typical schedule consists of 7 courses, lunch, and a study hall.
- Grade level status is based on credits earned.

Grade 9	0 – 29.75	Grade 10	30 – 59.75
Grade 11	60 – 89.75	Grade 12	90 and above
- Credits are awarded at the conclusion of a course. Course credit is denied for students who
 - Earn a final average of 64 or below in the course
 - Do not sit for the final exam
 - Exceed the attendance policy for that course

In most cases, denied credits can be recovered through online coursework during the summer, which will incur a fee. Repeating the course in a subsequent school year is also an option.

- Athletic Eligibility – The New Jersey State Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA) has established policies that require student-athletes to meet certain requirements in order to be eligible to compete on school-sanctioned athletic teams. Among these requirements is an academic component that is based on credits earned at various times throughout the year. These academic requirements are outlined below:

	Fall/Winter Season	Spring Season
Grade 9	All first-time 9 graders are automatically eligible	The student must be passing the equivalent of 15 credits as of January 31st. <i>This means 6 courses multiplied by the 2.5 credits unofficially "earned" at that point.</i>
Grades 10-12	The student must have earned 30 credits in the prior academic year	

- The Master Schedule and the number of sections of each course is set in accordance with the number of student requests. **Please note that certain courses may not be scheduled in a given year due to insufficient enrollment.**
- Although the Master Schedule is created with the goal of 100% fulfillment of student requests, scheduling conflicts inevitably arise and students need to make choices regarding their elective courses. Guidance Counselors can help students make these decisions based on their future goals.

Somerville Course Levels

Applied and Introductory Levels

Applied level courses follow the content specific New Jersey Student Learning Standards, NextGen Science Standards, and Core Curriculum Content Standards employing strategies that address the specific needs of diverse learners. These strategies provide preparation for students who wish to enter a college and/or university program.

College Preparation (CP) Level

College preparation courses follow the content specific New Jersey Student Learning Standards, NextGen Science Standards, and Core Curriculum Content Standards. They are designed to challenge motivated students in a specific content curricular area. These courses provide preparation for students who wish to enter a college and/or university program.

Honors (H) and Advanced Placement (AP) Level

Honors level courses follow the content specific New Jersey Student Learning Standards, NextGen Science Standards, Core Curriculum Content Standards, and College Board Advanced Placement curriculum. They are designed to challenge highly motivated students with talent and expressed interest in a specific content area. Honors courses are offered in English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and World Language. Advanced Placement courses are available in these areas, as well as Computer Science and Music. These courses offer enrichment both in scope and exploration of material presented.

Option II Program

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:8-5.1, Boards of Education may utilize performance or competency assessment to approve student completion of programs aimed at meeting or exceeding the Core Curriculum Content Standards at the secondary level. These programs are commonly referred to as "Option II". Somerville High School offers the following Option II opportunities:

Credit Recovery

Students can recover any credits lost due to a failing grade or attendance policy violations. Somerville uses APEX Online Coursework as the primary resource for completing this process. Fees may apply.

Advanced or Accelerated Credit

Students wishing to advance to the next level/course in a particular content area can complete prerequisite coursework through Option II. Credit can be attained.

Dual Enrollment with RVCC

The Dual Enrollment Program through Raritan Valley Community College allows Seniors to begin preparation for their post-secondary education or career by providing an opportunity to receive college credit prior to high school graduation. Students who successfully complete coursework taken through the Dual Enrollment Program will have their earned college credits documented on a regular RVCC transcript. These credits can either be applied to RVCC degree programs or transferred to other colleges and universities across the nation, contingent upon the school's approval.

GRADE 9 COURSE OFFERINGS 2019-2020

ENGLISH

English 1
English 1CP
English 1H

MATHEMATICS

Algebra 1
Algebra 1CP
Geometry CP
Geometry H
Algebra 2CP
Algebra 2H

SCIENCE

Intro to Biology
Biology CP
Biology H

SOCIAL STUDIES

World Studies
World Studies CP
World Studies H

WORLD LANGUAGE

French 1
French 2
French 2H
Spanish Communication and Culture
Spanish 1
Spanish 2
Spanish 2H

PHYSICAL EDUCATION and HEALTH

Phys Ed 9/Health 9

ELECTIVES

21st CENTURY & STEM

21st Century Experience**
Intro To Engineering Design**
Intro to Computer Programming**

ART

Exploring Art*
Communication Design 1*
The 3D Experience*

BUSINESS

Computer Fundamentals** (*counselor rec required*)
Digital Literacy**
Accounting 1**

ENGLISH

Journalism

MUSIC

Music Theory and Composition*
Freshmen Band*
Concert Choir*

LUNCH and STUDY HALL

Lunch
Study Hall

OTHER

ESL 1
ESL 2
ESL 3
ESL Study Hall
VoTech A Shop (application required)
VoTech C Shop (application required)

*Satisfies State Graduation Requirement for Visual and Performing Arts

**Satisfies State Graduation Requirement for 21st Century Life and Careers

INCOMING FRESHMEN SCHEDULING CALENDAR

January 16, 2019	Incoming Freshmen Scheduling Workshop
February 1, 2019	Honors Application and Self-Assessment Questionnaire available via the Guidance Department Webpage
February 15, 2019	Honors Application Deadline
February 26, 2019	Copy of core course requests, including Honors Application decisions, are mailed to all 8th graders along with Realtime access codes.
March 15, 2019	Deadline to enter World Language and Elective requests via Realtime
March 16, 2019	OPTIONAL - Student scheduling appointments at SHS Guidance Office. These appointments are designed to address questions about academic programs or modify students' course requests.
May 1, 2019	Deadline to appeal a previously denied honors course by including 3rd marking period grades. Instructions for submitting the appeal are located on Guidance Department webpage.
May 31, 2019	Deadline to make any changes to course requests.

Schedule changes will only be considered under the following circumstances:

- misplacement in level of a specific course
- a scheduled course that conflicts with another specialized course/program
- computer error

Requests for a schedule change due to teacher preference, lunch adjustments, switching to different elective courses, or other similar types of program customizations will **NOT** be honored at Somerville High School.

LOOKING AHEAD – THE FRESHMEN TRANSITION

- June 5, 2019 **8th Grade Mixer** – students from SMS and BCMS visit SHS for a day of games, activities, and opportunities to explore athletic and club offerings
- August 2019 **Freshmen and New Student Orientation** - general assembly followed by mock bell schedule that allows students to visit their classrooms. Locker information, student handbooks, and SHS Spirit Wear purchases are also available during this time. Tentative dates – August 19th or 26th from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Students and parents are welcome.
- October 16, 2019 **Freshmen Program and Activities Fair** – morning presentation aimed at various social and emotional issues facing teens, specifically those who are transitioning into High School. The morning also contains an Activities Fair and small group sessions with Guidance Counselors.

LOOKING MUCH FURTHER AHEAD

- Junior Year **SAT/ACT Workshop** – provides a comparison of both exams in order to guide student decisions as to which test(s) they take.
- Junior College Planning Night** – held each January to provide students and parents with a comprehensive overview of the college search and selection process that leads up applications in the Fall of Senior Year.
- College Application Essay Workshop** – held each June to provide tips for writing effective essays as part of the college application process
- Senior Year **Senior Parent Night** – held in mid-September each year to provide a comprehensive overview of all elements of the college application process, including deadlines, transcript requests, e-submissions, etc...
- Financial Aid Night** – held each October to detail a variety of Federal, State, and Local financial assistance programs available to college-bound students
- All Grade Levels **College and Career Fair** – held each April with over 75 colleges, technical schools, local businesses, and community organizations in attendance

NOTES

EXTRA-CURRICULAR OFFERINGS

Academic Team	Green Dot	Peer to Peer
Amnesty International	F.R.E.E. Club	Photography Club
Art Club	FIRST Robotics Team	Pioneer Studios
Barbershop Quartet	French Club	Pioneer Yearbook
Book Club	Genesis Club	S.A.D.D. Club
By Kids For Kids	Habitat For Humanity	Ski/Snowboard Club
Chamber Choir	Interact Club	Spanish Club
Chess Club	Jazz Ensemble	Spectrum Alliance
Cinematography/ANIME	Key Club	Student Athletic Trainers
Color Guard (Fall/Winter)	Marching Band	Student Council
Computer Engineering	Mock Trial	Students For A More
Consumer Bowl	Model U.N.	Political Society
Cultural Awareness	MUSE	Thespian Society
DNA Club	National Honor Society	Valkyrie Newspaper
Drama Club/Theater Arts	Peer Leadership	Women's Quartet

ATHLETIC OFFERINGS

<u>FALL</u>	<u>WINTER</u>	<u>SPRING</u>
Cross Country – Girls/Boys	Basketball – Girls/Boys	Baseball
Cheerleading	Cheerleading	Golf
Field Hockey	Fencing – Girls/Boys	Lacrosse – Girls/Boys
Football	Ice Hockey	Softball
Gymnastics	Swimming – Girls/Boys	Tennis – Boys
Soccer – Girls/Boys	Wrestling	Track – Girls/Boys
Tennis – Girls		