

Elementary and Secondary School General Core Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the minimum core standards for Vista School.

Course Description Standards and Objectives

The Utah State Board of Education establishes minimum standards and objectives for course descriptions for each course in the required general core. Course descriptions for required and elective courses are developed cooperatively by Vista School and the Utah State Board of Education. Implementation and assessment procedures for approved courses are the responsibility of Vista School.

General Core Requirements

1. Grades K-6
 - a. Students in grades K-6 shall be taught according to the requirements found in UTAH ADMIN CODE R277-700-4, as amended.
 - b. Vista School shall conduct informal assessments on a regular basis to ensure continual student progress.
 - c. Vista School shall use USBE-approved summative adaptive assessments to assess student mastery of the following:
 - i. Reading;
 - ii. Language arts;
 - iii. Mathematics;
 - iv. Science; and
 - v. Effectiveness of written expression in grades five and eight.
 - d. Vista School shall provide accommodations to students who do not achieve mastery of the subjects described in this section.

2. Grades 7-8
 - a. The core standards and a general core for students in grades 7-8 are described in UTAH ADMIN CODE R277-700-5.
 - b. Vista School shall use evidence-based practices, technology, and other instructional media in middle school curricula to increase the relevance and quality of instruction.
 - c. Vista School shall use USBE-approved summative adaptive assessments to assess student mastery of the following:
 - i. Reading;

- ii. Language Arts;
 - iii. Mathematics;
 - iv. Science; and
 - v. Effectiveness of written expression in grade eight.
- d. Vista School may:
- i. Offer additional elective courses;
 - ii. Require a student to complete additional courses; or
 - iii. Set minimum credit requirements.
- e. Upon parental or student request, Vista School may, substitute a course requirement for a student in grade 7 or 8 with a course or experience that is:
- i. Similar to the course requirement; or
 - ii. Consistent with the student's plan for college and career readiness.
- f. A parent or student requesting a course substitution under the above subsection must make the request to the school counselor.
3. Grades 9-12 Education Requirements
- a. The general core and core standards for students in grades 9-12 are described in UTAH ADMIN CODE R277-400-6.
- i. When a student enrolls at Vista School in grade 9, they receive credit towards high school graduation and will receive the required general core classes as well as elective opportunities.

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