

Policy Code: IKF

LCA High School Graduation Requirements

I. Purpose & Classical Philosophy

This policy defines the high school graduation standards for Lionheart Classical Academy. Grounded in a classical liberal arts framework and guided by the Hillsdale College K-12 Curriculum Scope and Sequence, our academic program exists to train the minds and inspire the hearts of our students through a classical liberal arts and sciences education. We aim to cultivate wisdom, moral virtue, and civic responsibility by fostering academic achievement, virtuous living, and responsible citizenship.

Through mastery of the Trivium, classical languages, mathematical inquiry, laboratory sciences, and the primary-source study of history and literature, our students receive a transformative education. A diploma from Lionheart Classical Academy signifies not merely seat-time, but true mastery of this coherent four-year sequence, culminating in a Senior Thesis and Oral Defense.

II. Credit Distribution & NH State Requirements (Table 306-2)

While New Hampshire sets the state minimum at 20 credits, our classical curriculum is designed around a 24.5-credit Distinction Diploma, with a 20-credit Merit Diploma available to meet baseline graduation requirements.

Content Area	NH State Min. (Table 306-2)	LCA Courses
Mathematics	3.0 Credits (<i>incl. algebra, stats/data analysis, annual engagement</i>)	Algebra (1), Geometry (1), Algebra II (1), Pre-Calculus w/ Statistics, (1), Calculus (1), Statistics & Financial Math (0.5)
Physical Sciences	1.0 Credit	Chemistry (1), Physics (1), Astronomy/Advanced Science (1)
Biological Sciences	1.0 Credit	Biology (1)
Health & Wellness	0.5 Credit	Health, Wellness, & Fitness (1.5)
English & Literature	3.5 Credits (<i>incl. 0.5 writing</i>)	Ancient Lit (1), Medieval & Brit Lit (1), American Lit (1), Modern Lit (1), Composition (0.5)
US History	0.5 Credit	Ancient World to 500 (1), NH History (0.5), American History (1607-Present) (0.5), Moral & Political Philosophy (0.5), Modern World History (1815-Present) (0.5) & American Government & Civics (0.5)
NH History	0.5 Credit	
Civics	0.5 Credit	

History, government and constitutions of US and NH	1.0 Credit	
World history, global studies, or geography	1.0 Credit	
Economics	0.5 Credit	Economics & Financial Literacy (0.5)
Digital Literacy	0.5 Credit	Thesis Research & Digital Literacy (0.5)
Financial Literacy	0.5 Credit	Economics & Financial Literacy (0.5)
Logic & Rhetoric	0.5 Credit	Formal Logic & Classical Rhetoric (0.5)
Foreign Languages	<i>NA</i>	Latin III (0.5), Advanced Latin / Modern Foreign Language (3)
Arts Education	0.5 Credit	Fine Arts Electives (Visual Arts, Music Theory, Choir, Instrumental)
Physical Education	1.0 Credit	Health, Wellness, & Fitness (1.5)
Senior Thesis	<i>NA</i>	Senior Thesis & Oral Defense (0.5)
TOTAL CREDITS	20 Credits	LCA Diplomas: Merit Diploma - 20 Credits Distinction Diploma - 24.5 Credits

III. Four-Year Scope & Sequence Matrix

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Merit (20)	Distinction (24.5)
Ancient Literature (1)	Medieval & British Literature (1)	American Literature (1)	Modern Literature (1)	(4)	(4)
Ancient History (1)	<i>New Hampshire History</i> (0.5) & <i>Economics & Financial Literacy</i> (0.5)	American History (1607-Present) (0.5) & Moral & Political Philosophy (0.5)	Modern World History (1815-Present) (0.5) & American Government & Civics (0.5)	(4)	(4)
<i>Composition</i> (0.5)	Formal Logic & Classical Rhetoric (0.5)	Thesis Research & <i>Digital Literacy</i> (0.5)	Senior Thesis & Oral Defense (0.5)	(2)	(2)
Algebra I (1) or Geometry (1)	Geometry (1) or Algebra II (1)	Algebra II (1) or Pre-Calculus w/ Statistics (1)	Pre-Calculus (1) or Calculus (1) or Statistics & Financial Math (0.5)	(3.5)	(4)
Biology (1)	Chemistry (1)	Physics (1)	Astronomy (1) or Other Advanced Science (1)	(4)	(4)
Latin III (0.5) or Foreign Language Elective (0.5)	Advanced Latin* (1) or Foreign Language Elective* (1)	Advanced Latin* (1) or Foreign Language Elective* (1)	Advanced Latin* (1) or Foreign Language Elective* (1)	(0.5)	(3.5)
<i>Health, Wellness, & Fitness</i> (1.5)				(1.5)	(1.5)
	Fine Arts Elective (0.5)	Fine Arts Elective* (0.5)	Fine Arts Elective* (0.5)	(0.5)	(1.5)

Note: * indicate not mandatory.

IV. Statutory Non-Credit Milestones

1. U.S. Naturalization Civics Exam (RSA 189:11): All 12th-grade students must achieve 70% or higher on the [100-question U.S. Citizenship Civics examination](#).
2. Annual Math Engagement (RSA 193-E:2): Students must participate in mathematics coursework or approved math-integrated content during every year of high school enrollment.
3. Statewide Assessment (RSA 193-C): Participation in mandatory NH DOE statewide 11th-grade assessments is required.
4. Senior Thesis Oral Defense: Successful authorship of a scholarly thesis and passing an oral defense before a faculty/community panel is a mandatory milestone for graduation.