

Guidance for Dramatic Writing Course Credit

Four units of credit in English Language Arts shall be required of all students. A full unit of credit in American Literature/Composition and a full unit of credit in Ninth-Grade Literature and Composition shall be required. All courses that may satisfy the remaining units of credit are identified with a “c” on the [List of State Funded K-8 Subjects and 9-12 Courses](#) (Reference: SBOE Rule 160-4-2-.20).

The sequence of courses is not dictated by the rule. The order in which these courses should be taken is a local decision.

The fourth ELA course does not necessarily need to be taken in the student’s fourth or senior year. It may be appropriate for the course to be taken in the student’s sophomore or junior year if the course is part of the student’s focused area of interest, program concentration or career pathway. Courses that are intended to be the final course in a pathway sequence are not recommended for students who have not taken the prerequisite courses.

Awarding Units for courses with embedded academic core standards

Districts will determine whether to offer Dramatic Writing (course number 52.09200) as an embedded course. When offered as an embedded course students shall earn two units of credit, one elective unit of credit and one unit of credit for the core academic course in English Language Arts.

Students who **successfully** complete Dramatic Writing, as an embedded course, shall also receive one unit of credit for Advanced Composition (course number 23.03400) beginning with students enrolled in the 2018-2019 school year and subsequent years. Dramatic Writing, when offered as a standalone course, meets the fourth English Language Arts requirement for high school graduation and meets the fourth English Language Arts requirement for admission to the University System of Georgia and the Technical College System of Georgia.

1. When Dramatic Writing is offered as an embedded course, how shall the local school district enter the courses and credits on student transcripts?

Response: Initially, local school districts may need to enter the course not listed in the student scheduling system manually. For example, if the local school system decides to post Dramatic Writing (as an embedded course) on the student’s schedule, the school system will manually post the Advanced Composition course to the student’s transcript. In subsequent years, local school districts should work with their student management information system vendor to determine a procedure for entering both courses automatically once students complete Dramatic Writing. Upon successfully course completion, each course will post with one (1) unit of Attempted Earned Credit and one (1) unit of Earned Credit.

2. How does the teacher of record for the Advanced Composition course get recorded?
Response: In this case, the teacher of record will be the Dramatic Writing course teacher.
3. When offered as an embedded course, will a student receiving English Language Arts credit for Dramatic Writing also receive a credit for the Fine Arts Theatre/Film Pathway?
Response: Yes, students successfully completing the Dramatic Writing, as an embedded course, will receive one credit for the Fine Arts Theatre/Film Pathway (course number 52.09200) and one credit for Advanced Composition (course number 23.03400) in the English Language Arts core area. Students will be required to complete the English Language Arts and CTAE/Modern Language/Latin/Fine Arts requirements listed in the current graduation rule.

Reference: 160-4-2-.48 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR STUDENTS ENROLLING IN THE NINTH GRADE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE 2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS.

(I) **English Language Arts:** Four units of credit in English Language Arts shall be required of all students. A full unit of credit in American Literature/Composition and a full unit of credit in Ninth-Grade Literature and Composition shall be required. All courses that may satisfy the remaining units of credit are identified with a "c." The Writing, Conventions, and Listening, Speaking, and Viewing strands of the Georgia Standards of Excellence shall be taught in sequence in grades 9-12. Literature modules may be taught in any sequence in grades 10-12.

(V) **CTAE/Modern Language/Latin/Fine Arts:** A total of three units of credit shall be required from the following areas: CTAE and/or Modern Language/Latin and/or Fine Arts. Students are encouraged to select courses in a focused area of interest.

<http://www.gadoe.org/External-Affairs-and-Policy/State-Board-of-Education/SBOE%20Rules/160-4-2-.48.pdf>

4. Will students who successfully complete Dramatic Writing as an embedded course receive the same course grade for both courses? (Dramatic Writing, 52.09200) and (Advanced Composition, 23.03400)
Response: Yes, if the student successfully completes the Dramatic Writing course, the same course grade assigned to the Dramatic Writing course will be assigned to the Advanced Composition course.
5. Will a student be required to receive two credits, one (1) unit of credit for the Dramatic Writing course and one (1) unit of credit for the Advanced Composition course if they only want one (1) unit of credit for the Dramatic Writing course?

Response: The decision to require students to receive one (1) unit of credit for the Advanced Composition course after receiving one (1) unit of credit for the Dramatic Writing course will be a local decision. This information should be available to students and parents during the advisement session.

6. How can a student’s credit for taking Dramatic Writing be allocated?

Response: Below is a scenario to model how students can gain credit for both the Fine Arts Theatre/Film Pathway and the English Language Arts core area and meet the graduation requirements.

Student A takes the following courses in the areas of English Language Arts and Fine Arts - Theatre/Film Pathway.

ELA Requirement	ELA Course	Requirement Met	Credit Awarded	CTAE / Modern Language / Latin / Fine Arts Course	Requirement Met	Credit Awarded
1st Requirement	American Literature - Composition	require	1	A	require	1
2nd Requirement	Ninth-Grade Literature and Composition	require	1	B	require	1
3rd Requirement	Tenth-Grade Literature and Composition	Core	1	Dramatic Writing	require	1
4th Requirement	Advanced Composition (through Dramatic Writing)	Core	1			
Totals		4	4			3

Student A has met the requirements for all four English Language Arts and for CTAE and/or Modern Language/Latin and/or Fine Arts utilizing **Dramatic Writing**. Dramatic Writing met the requirements in both areas. Dramatic Writing appears as the course of record on the CTAE and/or Modern Language/Latin and/or Fine Arts and Advanced Composition appears as the course of record on the English Language Arts core area in the student’s transcript.

7. Who can teach the Dramatic Writing course?

Response: The Georgia Professional Standards Commission has established the minimum requirements for teachers to receive a Dramatic Writing Micro-Endorsement. The rule can be found at <https://www.gapsc.com/Rules/Current/Certification/505-2-.187.pdf>