



# Milwaukee Academy of Science

## 2020-2021 Virtual Learning School Year

*MAS Academics: Career and College Prep*

### Credits

- Each class is worth 0.5 credits
  - Students can earn up to 7.5 credits per year
  - Credit is earned for a class if student receives above a 60% at the end of the trimester
- Students need 24 credits to graduate from MAS
  - 6 credits per year to remain on pace for on time graduation
- Students must earn a minimum number of credits in each subject area:
  - 6 Sciences
  - 4.5 English
  - 4 Math
  - 3 Social Studies
  - 2 Foreign Language
  - 1.5 P.E.
  - .5 Health
  - 2.5 Electives

### Grades and GPA

- Your Final Trimester Grade (T) is...
  - 85% from summative, formative and practice assignments during the Trimester (P)
    - Summative
      - End of unit assessments
      - Grade shows your level of mastery on the content
      - Worth 60% of your class grade
    - Formative
      - Middle of unit check in assessments
      - Grades show your progress and help teachers redesign lessons depending on what students need help with
      - Worth 25% of your class grade
    - Practice
      - Daily or nightly assignments for you to practice skills and learn content
      - Ex. Homework
      - Worth 15% of your class grade
  - 15% from the Trimester Final Exam (E)
- What If I Fail a Summative?
  - MAS Students may RETAKE Summatives. How?
  - Visit your teacher during Office Hours to learn more
- What If I Don't Do a Summative?
  - All summative assessments MUST be done by the end of the Trimester
    - Missing summatives at the end of the trimester = "Incomplete" grade for the class
    - Summative to be completed before you can receive class credit or move on
  - Missed a deadline?
    - Go to office hours and make a plan with your teacher to make it up

- Note: You may be expected to complete additional tasks prior to being allowed to make up the assignment
- Colleges only look at your final grade and your Grade Point Average (GPA)
  - GPA is calculated by assigning each of your grades a point value and averaging them
    - A 100-93 = 4
    - A- 92-90 = 3.7
    - B+ 89-87 = 3.3
    - B 86-83 = 3
    - B- 82-80 = 2.7
    - C+ 79-77 = 2.3
    - C 76-73 = 2
    - C- 72-70 = 1.7
    - D+ 69-67 = 1.3
    - D 66-63 = 1
    - D- 62-60 = .7
    - F 59 & below = 0

## **ACT and ACT ASPIRE**

- ACT is expected to occur as normal this school year
  - ACT in March for all Juniors
  - Multiple dates for Seniors to take the ACT for the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, etc.
- 9th and 10th graders will take the ASPIRE test multiple times
  - 3 practice tests: August, November, January
  - 1 official Test: April
  - All ASPIRE tests are graded as summative assessments
    - Based on GROWTH & LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
    - Lowest possible score is 60%
- What is the point of the ACT test?
  - Most colleges require the ACT for admission process
  - High ACT scores open lots of doors
    - College Admissions
    - Scholarships
- MAS wants to see students do well on the ACT. Here's what we do to help:
  - Provide ACT and ASPIRE practice tests because...
    - practice makes perfect
    - become comfortable with the process of test taking
    - Student results help teachers design purposeful lessons and supports for individual students, small groups and entire classes
  - Hold small group instruction on Wednesdays
    - Opportunity for teachers to help support groups of students with similar academic needs
  - Naviance Program
    - Online platform designed to help students on their path towards college and higher ACT scores

## **Advice From Former Students**

What is one thing you wish someone had told you on day one of 9th Grade?

- "Get comfortable asking teachers for help."
- "Take every day and every class seriously, its easy to fall behind."
- "Studying is not optional!"
- "You have to be very very responsible. Your teachers don't go to you when you miss work, you have to go to them. You have to look out for yourself, and do what you've got to do."

- “Think carefully about who you spend time with. Drama will ruin your year.”