

# Eyes Wide Open

## FIVE THINGS EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HOMESCHOOLING HIGH SCHOOL

DIANE SPEED  
hscollegebound.com

### 1) Don't be surprised by the push-back.

- *Learning is a fun adventure.*
- *Where did my kid go?*
- *Required credits.*
- *Your attitude.*
- *Hard work.*

Find these tracks for high school at:  
<https://hscollegebound.com/coursework.htm>

### Three tracks for high school

	Possible courses	Suggested credits for		
		high school graduation	general college	highly selective college
<b>English</b>	Composition, literature, rhetoric, creative writing, speech/communications, journalism, debate. <i>For general college:</i> AP or college courses should be considered. <i>For highly selective colleges:</i> AP or college courses are strongly recommended.	4	4	4+
<b>Math</b>	Algebra 1 & 2, geometry, precalculus/trigonometry, calculus, AP calculus. <i>For highly selective colleges:</i> AP courses strongly recommended. Consider statistics and accounting.	3	3-4	4+
<b>History</b>	World history, American history, U.S. government. <i>For general college:</i> Consider AP courses, economics, geography, constitutional law. <i>For highly selective colleges:</i> Also consider sociology, psychology, political science. AP and college courses strongly recommended.	2-3	3-4	4+
<b>Science</b>	Physical science, general science, earth science, biology, chemistry, physics. <i>For general college:</i> Consider AP courses. <i>For highly selective colleges:</i> AP courses strongly recommended.	2-3	3-4	4+
<b>Foreign language</b>	French, Spanish, Latin, German, Russian, etc. <i>At least two years of same language is preferred.</i>	2-3	3-4	3-4
<b>Physical education</b>	<i>Many options available.</i>	1-2	1-2	1-2
<b>Fine arts</b>	Art, music, drama, photography, film, etc.	1-2	1-2	1-2
<b>Electives</b>	Practical arts, life skills, computer skills, Bible, etc.	5	5	5
<b>Total credits</b>		<b>20-22</b>	<b>24-28</b>	<b>26-30</b>

## 2) Don't overschedule.

- *Your student needs time for academics.*
- *Learning executive skills — time management, project planning, meeting deadlines.*
- *Balancing work & play.*

### The Scheduling Challenge

8:00	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	8:00
9:00								9:00
10:00								10:00
11:00								11:00
12 noon								12 noon
1:00								1:00
2:00								2:00
3:00								3:00
4:00								4:00
5:00								5:00
6:00								6:00
7:00								7:00
8:00								8:00

**The Method**

- Place all scheduled classes & activities.
- Estimate daily requirements for study time (assignments & homework; see right).
- Schedule study time.

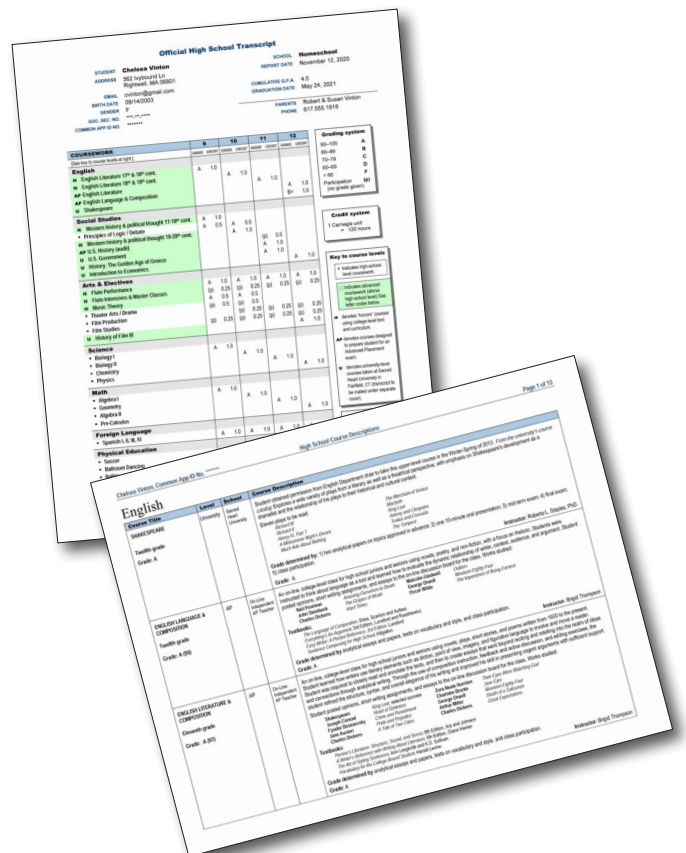
**Daily requirements for study time**

Math: \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/day      History: \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/day  
 English: \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/day      Music: \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/day  
 Science: \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/day  
 Foreign lang: \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/day

For guidance on using this form & to access the form itself, go to:  
[tinyurl.com/2p82sn5z](https://tinyurl.com/2p82sn5z)

## 3) High school content: Continually reevaluate.

- *Finding relevant, well-taught content is a challenge.*
- **Options:**
  - *at home;*
  - *online—asynchronous vs. live/interactive;*
  - *co-ops;*
  - *college classes.*
- *Record-keeping.*
- *Extracurricular activities.*



Read about choosing extracurricular activities at:  
<https://hcollegebound.com/Videos-and-Articles.htm>

Read about course options at:  
<https://hcollegebound.com/coursework.htm>

#### **4) See the end from the beginning.**

- *Your vision.*
- *Make a plan:*
  - *to meet high school requirements;*
  - *to set your student apart;*
  - *to satisfy criteria of schools student is targeting.*
- *Meet with spouse—make goals, agree on vision.*
- *Meet with teen.*

#### **5) Listen. Adjust. Up the level.**

- *Hold your standard.*
- *Your student needs to know you believe in him/her.*
- *Provide support.*
- *Find for yourself a community of like-minded peers.*
- *Find for your student a community of academically minded peers.*

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### **CONCLUSION**

*Is it worth it?*

*You will know your kid.*

*You can instill key values.*

*You can provide a world-class education.*

*Homeschooling is the greatest  
differentiator in college admissions.*

# Online courses

*Live & interactive*

<https://hscollegebound.com/Online-Courses.htm>

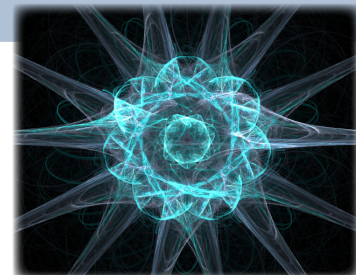
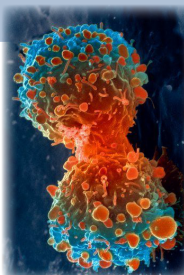
## SCIENCE INTENSIVES — 8 weeks, 16 sessions

- **Ecology w/lab** — begins Sept. 26, 2022
- **Genetics w/lab** — begins Jan. 16, 2023
- **Botany w/lab** — begins March 27, 2023



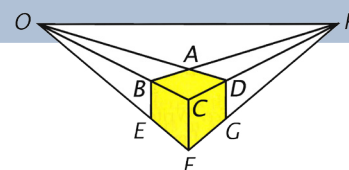
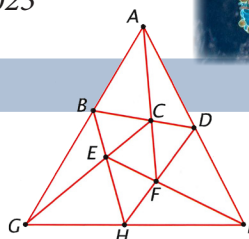
## SCIENCE — Year-long, honors-level instruction

- **Honors Biology with lab** — begins Aug. 29, 2022
- **Honors Chemistry with lab** — begins Aug. 29, 2022  
*Includes instruction in writing lab reports*
- **Honors Physics with lab** — *returning fall 2023*



## MATH — Year-long courses

- **Geometry** — begins Aug. 30, 2022  
*Honors track available*



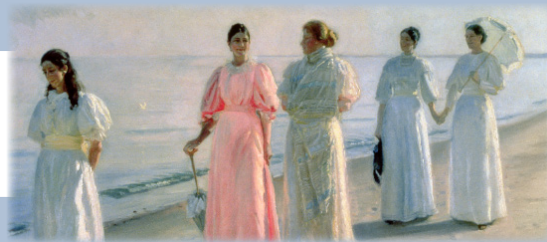
## WRITING — Year-long, honors-level instruction

- **Writer's Guide to Grammar** — begins Aug. 31, 2022
- **Logical Communication** — two sections, beginning Aug. 29 & 30, 2022
- **Essay Writing & Appreciation** — begins Aug. 31, 2022



## LITERATURE — Year-long, honors-level instruction

- **Novels by Women** — begins Aug. 30, 2022
- **History & Literature of the Middle Ages** — *returning 2023*



## SHAKESPEARE INTENSIVES — 7–10 weeks' duration

- **Twelfth Night** — begins June 3, 2022 (4 weeks, 8 sessions)
- **Romeo & Juliet** — begins Aug. 31, 2022 (10 sessions)
- **Hamlet** — begins Nov. 30, 2022 (10 sessions)
- **Macbeth** — begins Mar. 8, 2023 (7 sessions)

