

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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DPS: 2013-02

MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Pam Stewart

DATE: February 1, 2013

SUBJECT: Equivalent and Equally Rigorous Mathematics and Science Courses

The Course Code Directory (CCD) is a comprehensive information resource consisting of a narrative section that provides general and in-depth information on applicable laws and State Board of Education rules; explanations of requirements and policies pertaining to multiple topics; and details on the K-12 course numbering system. Section 3 (Grades 9 to 12 and Adult Education Courses) of the 2013-14 CCD will include the identification of *equivalent* mathematics and science courses and *equally rigorous* science courses. Specific graduation requirements will be designated as follows:

- **A1** designates a course is equivalent to Algebra 1 and “triggers” the End-of-Course Assessment,
- **A2** designates a course is equivalent to Algebra II,
- **GE** designates a course is equivalent to Geometry 1 and “triggers” the End-of-Course Assessment,
- **BI** designates a course is equivalent to Biology 1 and “triggers” the End-of-Course Assessment,
- **CH** designates a course is equivalent to Chemistry 1,
- **PH** designates a course is equivalent to Physics 1, and
- **EQ** designates a course as an *equally rigorous* science course based upon levels of cognitive complexity of content specific benchmarks, depth and breadth of content focus, and required laboratory components.

PAM STEWART
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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- **S3** Integrated Science 3: Completion of the Integrated Science series (1, 2, 3), either standard or honors, constitutes course *equivalencies* for Biology 1 (2000310), Chemistry 1 (2003340) or Physics 1 (2003380), and one equally rigorous science course, and “triggers” the Biology End-of-Course Assessment.

The Integrated Science 1, 2, 3 course descriptions have been revised for the 2013-14 school year to be in compliance with the Biology, Chemistry or Physics, and one equally rigorous science course, graduation requirement for the 2013-14 ninth grade cohort. Integrated Science 1 and Integrated Science 2 are *equally rigorous* science courses, and upon completion of the Integrated Science series (1, 2, 3) and satisfactory performance on the Biology EOC, these courses will be designated as *equivalent* as noted above.

The following Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses satisfy the equally rigorous science course requirement.

- 8106810 Agriscience Foundations 1
- 8106860 Agricultural Biotechnology 3
- 8112010 Aquaculture 2
- 8112020 Aquaculture 3/Level 2
- 3027010 Biotechnology 1 (0.5 credit EQ & 0.5 credit VOC)
- 3027020 Biotechnology 2 (0.5 credit EQ & 0.5 credit VOC)
- 8708110 Principles of the Biomedical Sciences
- 8708120 Human Body Systems
- 8708130 Medical Interventions
- 8006120 Introduction to Alternative Energy
- 8600580 Aerospace Technologies I
- 8600680 Aerospace Technologies II
- 8601780 Aerospace Technologies III

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Jackie Speake, Science Curriculum Specialist, at Jackie.Speake@fldoe.org, or via telephone at (850) 245-5068.

PS/js

Attachment

cc: Assistant School Superintendents
Mathematics Curriculum Supervisors
Science Curriculum Supervisors
Principals