

URBANDALE COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK

SUBJECT:	Interdisciplinary	
COURSE TITLE:	Academic Decathlon*	
PREREQUISITES:	None	1 Semester

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Academic Decathlon provides a forum in which teams of diverse students in grades 9-12 may engage in rigorous academic preparation through cooperative interaction. The purposes of Academic Decathlon are:

- to encourage students to develop greater respect for knowledge;
- to promote wholesome inter school competition in academic areas of interest;
- to stimulate intellectual growth and achievement;
- to encourage public awareness of outstanding educational programs; and
- to give recognition to Academic achievement among high school students.

*Because the content is different every year, students may take the Academic Decathlon class more than once.

CONTENT STANDARDS:

- Use a variety of strategies to solve problems
- Use appropriate computational skills
- Read to comprehend a variety of literature
- Communicate using spoken, written, and visual language
- Understand and apply concepts of selected science
- Examine the interaction of people, places, and the environment
- Analyze how people organize for production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.
- Understand the visual arts in relation to history and cultures
- Make connections between visual arts and other disciplines
- Understand music in relation to history and cultures.
- Make connections between music and other disciplines

BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS: Each year the United States Academic Decathlon organization announces a curriculum for the following year. The US AD curriculum determines the benchmarks for this course.

Based on a central theme, the events include Social Studies, Art, Music, Mathematics, Economics, Literature, Speech, Interview, Essay, Super Quiz.



ASSESSMENT: Content areas such as art, music, social studies, economics, mathematics, and language and literature are tested using multiple choice questions that ask the students to analyze, apply knowledge, and problem solve, in addition to recalling information.

Performance areas such as speech, interview, and essay each have rubrics that help students prepare quality presentations and writing.

Description of Competition: An academic decathlon team consists of to nine students. Each full team includes three varsity, 3 scholastic, and 3 honor students, based on GPA. All competitors are eligible for individual awards in each subject. The scores of the top two over all students in each category make up the team score.

No student enrolled in the Urbandale Community School District shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in the District's programs on the basis of race, color, creed, sex, religion, marital status, ethnic background, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or socio-economic background. The policy of the District shall be to provide educational programs and opportunities for students as needed on the basis of individual interests, values, abilities and potential.

