

The Collegiate American Middle and High School Co-Curricular Activity Program Guide

At Collegiate American School, we are committed to providing students with opportunities for a well-rounded educational experience. In this regard, we are delighted to include a wide range of co-curricular activities in our CAS CATS program (Collegiate American School Creativity, Activity, Technology and Service).

This co-curricular program focuses on allowing students to explore and develop a range of important life skills, and to acquire characteristics to excel in life in the 21st century.

The CAS co-curricular program is specifically designed so that all our students can develop the attributes that are critical for success. These attributes include:

- Critical and Creative Thinking
- Problem Solving
- Effective Communication
- Being Knowledgeable and Informed
- Leadership
- Collaboration, Cooperation and Being a Team Player
- IT Skills and Information Literacy
- Social and Cultural Awareness and Sensitivity
- Innovative and Entrepreneurial Concepts
- Development of lifelong, self-motivated learning
- Responsible Risk Taking
- Self-Reflection and Evaluation

Q. What is a co-curricular course?

A. Co-curricular courses take place from 2:45 – 3:32 on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Participation is mandatory for all Middle and High School students, on all 4 days.

Q. Do I get credit for my co-curricular courses?

A. Credits are awarded only if **all 4 of the co-curricular activities are passed**. These are equivalent to an Elective credit; however, they cannot replace your core program (US or IB) requirements.

Q. Do Co-curricular courses count towards my GPA?

A. No. Co-curricular courses are NOT used in the calculation of your weighted Grade Point Average (GPA).

Q. Exactly how will I be assessed?

A. You are required to be involved in the co-curricular course for the entire semester. There will be continual assessment of your performance during this period. The methods of assessment and evaluation for each co-curricular course may vary as to whether it is performance-based, task-based or participation-based.

Q. How are Co-curricular courses graded?

A. Co-curricular courses are graded as “PASS” or “FAIL” and are reflected on your transcript as PASS (P) or FAIL (F). Each lesson, teachers will have identified specific outcomes for that lesson and/or task. Those outcomes must be met. Students who choose not to participate and not to attempt to successfully complete the outcomes will not be able to pass the activity. Attendance is mandatory and as such a key component of earning a passing mark. Grades will be issued with the reports.

Q. Sunday we go back to Homeroom, is that also a Co-Curricular Activity?

A. Yes, the Homeroom program is the core of CAS CATS. During this lesson, you will reflect on and record your participation in the other activities, work with your homeroom teacher to develop your portfolio of Creativity, Activity, Technology and Service, explore college and career opportunities, and many other activities to help students develop as learners and members of the community.

Q. If Sunday is CAS CATS – Homeroom, what do we do Monday, Wednesday and Thursday?

A. The options for co-curricular activities will vary from semester to semester. The following activities are offered most semesters (specifics may change based upon availability and interest):

Middle and High School CCAs
Academic Olympiad - Students get a chance to build up their general academic knowledge in a competitive setting.
Art Cafe - Students will explore their artistic side and create works of art using a variety of mediums.
Art Exhibitions Club - The Art Exhibitions Club will make art for special school events and take a leadership role in finding creative new ways to showcase student art work through the school. *Requires Teacher Approval*
Band, Choir and Jam Session - Want to play? Want to sing? Want to create music using instruments or technology? Join us to do it all.
Book Club - This club is far more than it sounds. Students can discuss books they are reading, explore books in such areas as philosophy and mythology, or simply spend some time reading.
Build Your Portfolio - Personalized time to discuss personal statements, CV, interview skills and university applications *By Appointment Only*
Chess - Students will meet to learn the art of playing Chess. Students will compete against each other and prepare for other local competitions.
Coffee Moms – Learn Arabic that will help you – Travel, Shop, Bargain, be Pampered all the fun things! Learn from other Moms - PARENTS ONLY
Debate and The World Scholars Cup - Students will get to hone their debating skills, learning how to frame an argument and present convincing evidence to support their stand. It will also extend the opportunity for students to prepare for and compete in the World Scholars Cup competition.
Double Dutch - Students will learn the complex form of jump rope known as Double Dutch.
Drama Club - Grades 6 - 9 students will have the opportunity to participate in fun Drama games and activities which will also develop their team work skills and self-confidence.
Eco Club and Environmental Awareness - Students will help promote awareness of environmental issues and advance solutions such as recycling, composting, water and energy conservation, among others.
GATEway - An opportunity for GATEway students to have seminars and activities that focus on extending and enriching their knowledge, abilities, gifts and/or talents. *Requires Teacher Approval*
Global Citizenship - Students will explore what it means to be a good global citizen. They will focus on their school life, home life and community to undertake activities and projects that will help them develop as young adults.
High School Arabic Skills Desk - Students will get a chance to get some help with their Arabic skills, including Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking and Calligraphy.
High School Caring Culinary Creations - This Cooking Club will allow students to learn cooking skills, while giving back to the community. Each week, students will choose a recipe, bring the ingredients in from home, work with the teacher and their peers to cook it, and then share the creation with the school workers, cleaners and security staff. *Requires Parental Consent*

High School Cinema Studies and Film Making - Students will watch and critique a variety of movies and cinematic shorts, as well as script, create and edit short films of their own.

High School Competitive Gaming - This will include video, computer based and board games.

High School Literacy and Social Studies Help Desk - Grades 9-12 students can come get regular support on English and Social Studies assignments (HW, Projects, Essay Writing, reviewing of concepts for tests, etc.)

High School Math Help Desk - Students will get a chance to get some help with their math skills, work on Skills Navigator, progress on Khan Academy and just ask questions to help them develop their mathematical skills. ***Requires Teacher Approval***

High School Recreational Sports - Students will get to play a variety of recreational sports in different available venues. This may include Table Tennis, Soft Darts, Soccer, etc., as facilities and weather permit.

Islamic Studies Help Desk - Students will get a chance to get some help with their Islamic Studies

Leadership - Students will explore their Leadership Skills. This may include Student Council, Student Regents, University Deans, and just students who wish to develop their leadership skills and abilities. ***Requires Teacher Approval***

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Middle School Recreational Sports - Students will get to play a variety of recreational sports in different available venues. This may include Table Tennis, Soft Darts, Soccer, etc., as facilities and weather permit.

Model United Nations - Students will explore global issues and research the positions of different countries on those issues. They will then develop proposed solutions to problems faced around the world and debate those solutions in a constructive manner.

Photography - Students will get an opportunity to explore the world of photography. The "focus" will be on not just creating pictures, it will examine other works, use technology to manipulate imagery, and hopefully enter photos into different local and international competitions.

Qur'an Recitation - Students will learn the skills, habits, vocabulary and intonations necessary to master their Quranic recitation skills.

Regents - Regents meet to find solutions in order to promote the CAS Values, Mission Statement and Vision of the school and ensure that their peers feel they are duly represented through regular meeting times with Senior Leadership. ***Regent Members***

<p>Robotics - Students will design, build and program robots using EV3 kits and other equipment. The aim will be to eventually compete in the FIRST Lego League and World Robotics Olympiad.</p>
<p>Science Investigations - Students will get a chance to explore the world of Science through an assortment of investigations, both student designed and teacher led. *Requires Teacher Approval*</p>
<p>Social Entrepreneurship - students will create business ideas and plans for companies or events that are designed to not only raise funds, yet to raise social awareness and consciousness.</p>
<p>Technology Skills - Students will work in the ICT lab to explore and extend their own skills and understanding of a variety of technologies. This may include App Design, Web Design, Programming, VR, AR, Graphic Design, etc.</p>
<p>TEDx and Public Speaking - Students will develop their public speaking skills and prepare TEDx presentations on a variety or relevant issues.</p>
<p>Yearbook & Journalism - Students will create and develop the Collegiate American School 2017-2018 Yearbook as well as create and edit a variety of newsletters such as CAS Sports, STEM, etc. *Requires Teacher Approval*</p>

Suggestions for offerings are also encouraged to come from students, parents and other community members.

* **Note:** Students participating in Collegiate American School Team Sports are exempt from Co-Curricular Activities for days that include team practices and games. Once the season is over, they will attend their scheduled activity and only be assessed for those days. *