

EXAMPLE FAMILY ACADEMY (HOME EDUCATION PROGRAM)

Course Descriptions • Rowan Example • Class of 2026

Course descriptions accompany the home education transcript issued by the parent administrator. Each entry states the content covered, the primary materials used, and how the grade was determined. Credit values follow the Carnegie unit: 1.0 credit is a full academic year.

GRADE 9 • 2022-2023

English I

English • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: B+ • Materials: Parent-designed

Literature and composition survey covering the short story, the novel, and narrative poetry, with a grammar and usage strand. Core texts included *Of Mice and Men*, *Fahrenheit 451*, and *The Tragedy of Romeo and Juliet*. Six graded essays with mandatory revision, weekly vocabulary work, and a memorized recitation. Grade weights essays 55%, quizzes 25%, recitation and grammar 20%.

Algebra I

Mathematics • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Materials: Art of Problem Solving

A first algebra course taught from a problem-solving text: linear equations and graphing, systems, exponents, polynomial arithmetic and factoring, quadratics by multiple methods, radicals, and an introduction to functions. Emphasis on multi-step contest-style problems rather than drill. Grade is the average of eight unit tests (70%) and a graded problem-set portfolio (30%).

Integrated Physics and Chemistry

Science • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A- • Materials: Parent-designed with Texas IPC scope

An introductory physical-science course following the Texas IPC scope: motion and forces, work and energy, waves and light, thermal energy, matter and its properties, chemical bonding and reactions, and solution chemistry. Fourteen laboratory investigations with formal reports. Grade combines unit tests (50%), lab reports (35%), and problem sets (15%).

World Geography

Social Studies • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Materials: Parent-designed

Physical and human geography by region: landforms and climate systems, population and migration, economic development, urbanization, and cultural geography. The student built a series of thematic maps and completed a research project comparing water scarcity policy in the American Southwest and in Israel. Grade weights the project 30%, unit tests 45%, mapping portfolio 25%.

Introduction to Engineering Design

Career & Technical Education • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Materials: Homeschool co-op STEM lab

A co-op course in the engineering design process: sketching and orthographic projection, dimensioning, parametric 3D modeling in Autodesk Fusion, tolerance, and design for manufacture. The student completed six design briefs ending in 3D-printed prototypes and a final assembly of a working mechanical gripper. Grade assigned by the co-op instructor on a design-portfolio rubric.

GRADE 10 • 2023-2024

English II

English • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: B+ • Materials: Parent-designed

World literature in translation with a sustained argumentative-writing sequence: Night, Cry the Beloved Country, Julius Caesar, and selected essays. The student wrote seven argumentative essays with source integration and completed a research paper on propaganda in the twentieth century. Grade weights essays and paper 60%, reading assessments 25%, grammar and vocabulary 15%.

Geometry

Mathematics • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Honors • Materials: Art of Problem Solving

Honors geometry emphasizing rigorous proof: congruence, similarity, circles, power of a point, triangle centers, three-dimensional geometry, analytic geometry, and an introduction to trigonometry. Honors designation reflects the text's proof-based treatment and an added unit on geometric transformations and constructions. Grade averages unit tests (70%) and a portfolio of 30 written proofs (30%).

Biology with Lab

Science • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: B+ • Materials: Miller & Levine, parent-directed

A laboratory biology course covering biochemistry, cell structure and energetics, molecular and Mendelian genetics, evolution and natural selection, taxonomy, ecology, and human body systems. Eighteen laboratory exercises including microscopy, enzyme kinetics, and a fetal pig dissection, each with a written report. Grade combines chapter tests (50%), labs (35%), and a genetics case-study project (15%).

World History

Social Studies • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A- • Materials: Parent-designed

A chronological world survey from early civilizations to the present, taught from a primary-source reader with a narrative spine. Four document-based essays, a semester research paper on the industrial revolution's effect on labor, and a timeline project. Grade weights essays and paper 45%, unit tests 40%, timeline and discussion 15%.

Spanish I

World Language • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: B • Materials: Homeschool Spanish Academy (live online instruction)

First-year Spanish delivered as weekly live one-to-one online instruction with a native-speaking teacher, supplemented by daily independent work: present-tense conjugation, ser/estar, gender and agreement, question formation, and approximately 800 core vocabulary items. Grade assigned by the provider from oral assessments, written examinations, and attendance.

Principles of Engineering

Career & Technical Education • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Materials: Homeschool co-op STEM lab

A second co-op engineering course: statics and material properties, simple machines and mechanisms, electrical circuits and Ohm's law, control systems and microcontroller programming in C, and statistics for quality control. Culminated in a team-built autonomous line-following robot. Grade assigned by the co-op instructor from lab practicals, a design notebook, and the final build.

GRADE 11 • 2024-2025

English III: American Literature

English • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A- • Materials: Parent-designed

American literature from the colonial period to the present alongside a technical- and expository-writing strand chosen for an engineering-bound student: Douglass, Twain, Fitzgerald, Steinbeck, and contemporary essayists, paired with instruction in the technical report, the abstract, and documented proposal writing. Grade weights literary essays 40%, technical writing portfolio 40%, reading assessments 20%.

Algebra II

Mathematics • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Honors • Materials: Art of Problem Solving

Honors second-year algebra: complex numbers, polynomial and rational functions, exponential and logarithmic functions, sequences and series, conic sections, systems and matrices, and an introduction to combinatorics and probability. Honors designation reflects the text's contest-oriented problem sets and an added unit on functional equations. Grade averages unit tests (70%) and problem-set portfolio (30%).

Chemistry with Lab

Science • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: B+ • Materials: Parent-directed with Zumdahl text

A laboratory chemistry course: atomic structure and periodicity, nomenclature, stoichiometry, gas laws, thermochemistry, bonding and molecular geometry, solutions and molarity, acid-base chemistry with titration, and an introduction to equilibrium and redox. Sixteen quantitative laboratory exercises with error analysis. Grade combines unit tests (55%), labs (30%), and problem sets (15%).

United States History

Social Studies • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Materials: Parent-designed

A survey from Reconstruction to the present, as sequenced in Texas: industrialization and immigration, Progressive reform, the world wars, the Depression and New Deal, the Cold War, civil rights, and the modern era, with recurring attention to Texas's role. Three analytical essays and an oral-history project interviewing two family members about the 1970s. Grade weights unit tests 50%, essays 30%, oral history 20%.

Spanish II

World Language • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: B+ • Materials: Homeschool Spanish Academy (live online instruction)

Second-year Spanish continuing weekly live online instruction: preterite and imperfect past tenses, future and conditional, object and reflexive pronouns, an introduction to the subjunctive, and approximately 900 additional vocabulary items, with reading in graded texts and short journalism. Grade assigned by the provider from oral assessments and written examinations.

Digital Electronics

Career & Technical Education • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Materials: Homeschool co-op STEM lab

Applied digital logic: number systems and Boolean algebra, combinational logic design and Karnaugh-map minimization, sequential logic including flip-flops and counters, and circuit simulation followed by breadboard and PCB implementation. Final project was a seven-segment scoreboard built from discrete logic. Grade assigned by the co-op instructor from lab practicals and the final build.

GRADE 12 • 2025-2026

English IV: Composition and Literature

English • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Materials: Parent-designed

British and postcolonial literature — Macbeth, Frankenstein, 1984, and selected poetry — paired with a college-composition sequence covering the researched argument, synthesis of sources, and revision under deadline. The student produced a 14-page researched argument on the ethics of autonomous vehicles with annotated bibliography. Grade weights the researched argument 35%, essays 40%, reading assessments 25%.

Pre-Calculus

Mathematics • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A- • Honors • Materials: Art of Problem Solving

Honors pre-calculus: trigonometric functions, identities and equations, the laws of sines and cosines, polar form and De Moivre's theorem, vectors and matrices, parametric equations, conic sections, and an introduction to limits and continuity. Honors designation reflects the text's proof-oriented treatment and added work in complex numbers. Grade averages unit tests (70%) and problem-set portfolio (30%).

Engineering Physics

Science • 1.0 credit • Grade earned: A • Honors • Materials: Parent-directed with Serway Essentials text

An algebra- and trigonometry-based physics course with laboratory: kinematics in one and two dimensions, Newton's laws, work and energy, momentum and collisions, rotational motion, simple harmonic motion, waves and sound, and an introduction to electricity and magnetism. Honors designation reflects the added rotational-dynamics and E&M units and a required design-and-test capstone: a scale trebuchet with a written analysis of predicted versus measured range. Grade combines unit tests (50%), labs (30%), and the capstone (20%).

Government

Social Studies • 0.5 credit • Grade earned: A • Materials: Parent-designed

One semester of United States and Texas government: constitutional foundations and federalism, the three branches at both levels, civil liberties and civil rights, political parties and elections, and the Texas constitution and its distinctive offices. Included attendance at a city council meeting and a written civic-observation report. Grade weights unit tests 55%, essays 25%, civic observation 20%.

Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System

Social Studies • 0.5 credit • Grade earned: A- • Materials: Parent-designed

One semester meeting the Texas economics requirement: scarcity and opportunity cost, supply and demand, market structures, the role of money and banking, fiscal and monetary policy, international trade, and personal financial literacy including credit, insurance, and post-secondary financing. Grade weights unit tests 55%, a market-analysis project 25%, and a personal budget model 20%.

Engineering Statics (ENGR 2301)

Career & Technical Education • 0.5 credit • Grade earned: B+ • Dual enrollment • Materials: Alamo Colleges District (dual credit)

A three-semester-hour college engineering course taken for dual credit: force vectors and resultants, equilibrium of particles and rigid bodies, structural analysis of trusses and frames, internal forces, friction, centroids, and moments of inertia. Grade assigned by the college instructor and reported on an official college transcript ordered separately.

Athletics: Cross Country and Track

Health & Physical Education • 0.5 credit • Grade earned: P • Materials: Homeschool athletic association

Credit awarded on a pass basis for documented participation in a homeschool athletic association's cross country and track seasons: approximately 200 hours of coached training and competition, with training logs kept by the student and attendance verified by the head coach. Not graded on a letter scale and excluded from grade point average.

SAMPLE
FICTIONAL STUDENT