

# THE UNITED STATES ACADEMIC DECATHLON<sup>®</sup> AND CURRICULUM AND CONTENT STANDARDS

## OVERVIEW

The United States Academic Decathlon's curriculum is an interdisciplinary curriculum in which a selected theme is integrated across six different subject areas: art, economics, literature, music, science, and social science. Students also study mathematics and participate in essay-writing, speech, and interview events. The theme for the 2016–2017 U.S. Academic Decathlon<sup>®</sup> (USAD) curriculum is *World War II*. While in most subjects the majority of the topics relate to the overall curricular theme, some topics that cover fundamentals may also be included to encourage a thorough understanding of the subject area as a whole. The USAD mathematics curriculum is unrelated to the theme and focuses on standard high school mathematics topics.

This document provides a summary of the Common Core Standards for high school Mathematics and Reading that are addressed in USAD's 2016–2017 curriculum as well as the national content standards met by USAD's 2016–2017 curriculum.

## The United States Academic Decathlon's Curriculum and the Common Core Standards

### *The United States Academic Decathlon<sup>®</sup> and the Common Core Standards for High School Mathematics*

The Common Core High School Mathematics Standards consist of six broad categories. The U.S. Academic Decathlon's 2016–2017 mathematics curriculum addresses, at least in part, five of these six categories: Number and Quantity, Algebra, Functions, Modeling, and Geometry.

### *Mathematical Practice Standards Addressed*

In addition to the content standards, the Common Core High School Mathematics standards emphasize eight practice standards. These standards are meant to address the manner in which students approach and reason during their learning of mathematics. The U.S. Academic Decathlon's 2016–2017 mathematics curriculum encourages students to apply seven of these eight practice standards:

- *CCSS.Math.Practice.MP1: Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them*
- *CCSS.Math.Practice.MP2: Reason abstractly and quantitatively*
- *CCSS.Math.Practice.MP4: Model with mathematics*
- *CCSS.Math.Practice.MP5: Use appropriate tools strategically*
- *CCSS.Math.Practice.MP6: Attend to precision*
- *CCSS.Math.Practice.MP7: Look for and make use of structure*
- *CCSS.Math.Practice.MP8: Look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning*

### *The United States Academic Decathlon<sup>®</sup> and the Common Core Reading Standards for Literature*

The U.S. Academic Decathlon's 2016–17 literature curriculum in concert with other Academic Decathlon® subject areas addresses aspects of all ten of the Common Core College and Career Readiness Anchor Standards for Reading for students in grades K–12; aspects of all Common Core Reading Standards for Literature for students in grades 9–10; and aspects of seven of eight Common Core Reading Standards for Literature for students in grades 11–12.

### **The United States Academic Decathlon® Curriculum and National Content Standards**

The U.S. Academic Decathlon's 2016–2017 curriculum addresses aspects of the following:

- *All twenty of the Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics*
- *Eleven of the twelve Curriculum and Content Area Standards for English Language Arts developed by the International Reading Association (IRA) and the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE)*
- *Four of the five content areas of the high school mathematics curriculum as outlined by the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) and provides students with opportunities to utilize all four reasoning habits delineated by the NCTM*
- *Four of the nine National Content Standards for Music*
- *Five of the six National Content Standards for Visual Arts*
- *Nine of twelve physical science Disciplinary Core Ideas for Grades 9–12 as outlined by the Next Generation Science Standards*
- *Three of the ten historical eras of focus delineated by the National Content Standards for U.S. History and two of the nine historical eras of focus delineated by the National Content Standards for World History*