



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
STUDENTS FIRST



Office of Instructional Technology & Distance Education



Student Portal Program Fall 2020 Course Catalog

Student Portal Program Overview

The Office of Instructional Technology & Distance Education's Student Portal Program offers online courses for high school students in both public and private schools for the purpose of advancement and enrichment.

It is important to note that Student Portal online courses are not the same as Remote Learning courses that students are completing at their schools. Student Portal online courses serve as a supplement course a student's regular course schedule. Before electing to participate in Student Portal courses, students should carefully consider their ability to handle additional coursework.

Courses are taught by highly qualified online teachers of the CNMI Public School System. In addition, upperclassmen will be given priority enrollment for online courses that have reached maximum capacity.

STEP 1: Online Readiness Checklist

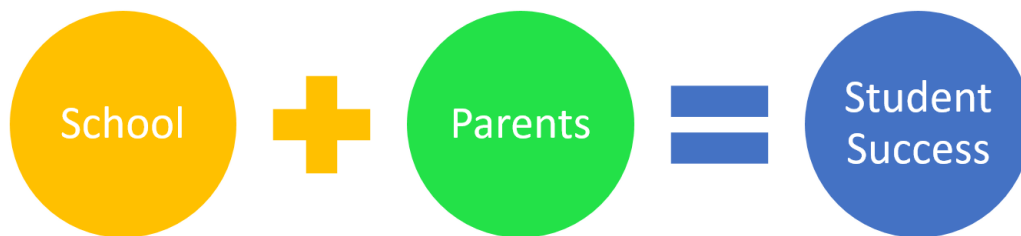
Check the box if you can answer yes to the following statements

- I own or have regular access to a computer.
- I know how to create, save, find, and open different kinds of files and programs on a computer.
- I have access to reliable internet on a regular basis.
- I have an email account that I can access regularly to check for new messages and communicate with others.
- I am able to stay on task and avoid distractions while studying.
- I am good at planning and managing my time so that my work is on-time and complete.
- I have little to no trouble expressing myself in writing.
- I consider myself an independent learner.
- I can learn from a variety of formats (written text, multimedia presentations, lectures, videos, online discussion/conferencing).
- If I can't figure out something, I am comfortable asking my classmates or the instructor for help via email, discussion board, or chat.

If you checked yes to all the boxes, you can proceed to the next step.

STEP 2: Parent/Guardian Consent

Discuss with your parents/guardian your interest in taking online courses. You will need to have them complete and sign the Parent/Guardian Consent Form for online courses. The consent form is located on the last page of this brochure.



STEP 3: Selecting your Online Courses

Browse through the course catalog to determine which online course(s) you might be interested in taking. You may select up to two (2) courses.

STEP 4: Registering for Online Courses

After completing the steps above, you are now ready to register for Student Portal Courses. The registration link can be accessed at: http://bit.ly/StudentPortal_Fall2020Form

Important Dates

Registration Period:	September 08, 2020 – September 25, 2020
Term Dates:	Courses begin on October 04, 2020 and end on January 09, 2020 for a total of 14 weeks of instruction
Withdrawal Request Deadline:	Students may request to withdraw from an online course by October 09, 2020. After this deadline, late withdrawals will not be considered unless there is an extenuating circumstance.

Important Information

- Students will receive course enrollment confirmation a week before the term begins.
- Online courses that do not meet the minimum enrollment requirement or do not have an assigned eTeacher may be cancelled.
- Course sections are capped at 30 students per eTeacher.
- Student Portal courses will run for a total of 14 instructional weeks.
- Online courses are not intended for credit recovery.
- Student Portal can be accessed at cnmipss.blackboard.com

Course Catalog

Language Arts

LA 2 World Literature (Semester 1)

1 credit course

This course will allow students to become skilled readers and writers while exploring a variety of written works from different literary periods. In addition, students will continue to hone their grammar skills, study skills, literature appreciation, spelling, vocabulary building, research skills, and reading strategies.

LA 3 American Literature (Semester 1)

1 credit course

This course focuses on critical analysis of American Literature and complements U.S. History. The ultimate goals for this class are to expose students to American culture, heritage, and history through study of our literature; and, to continue advancement towards more mature, refined writing skills.

LA 4 British Literature (Semester 1)

1 credit course

This course will focus on one of humanity's greatest and most profound achievements—British Literature. Students will demonstrate and develop their ability to determine and analyze the themes/ideas found in a text, compose narrative/informative/ explanatory texts and support their claims logically with evidence from the text, and present said information clearly to an audience while strategically using digital resources.

AP Language & Composition (Semester 1)

1 credit course

The AP English Language and Composition course is a highly challenging course that allows students to explore the exciting and controversial world of rhetoric. Students will develop critical reading skills that move beyond mere comprehension and into the realm of analysis, qualification, and evaluation.

AP Literature and Composition (Semester 1)

1 credit course

This course will follow the curricular requirements outlined by the College Board in the AP English Literature and Composition Course Description which focuses on building skills necessary for college-level reading, writing, and critical thinking. The texts include works from a variety of time periods and genres, and the writing assignments include in-class essays as well as formal process essays with several opportunities for revision.

Science

Biology

1 credit course

This course is designed to have students study the cell, the molecular basis of heredity, biological evolution, interdependence of organisms, matter and energy, and organization in living systems and the behavior of organisms.

Chemistry

1 credit course

This course will address the Next Generation Science Standards in scientific inquiry & thinking skills, nature of science and technology, and structure of properties of matter. Students will learn concepts, theories and development of scientific knowledge. Students will also develop critical thinking and problem solving skills through analysis of science, technological and environmental issues that affect our local society and global community.

Health

1 credit course

This is an introductory health course that is meant to introduce students to important topics that affect health and welfare. Students are expected to learn concept and theories to foster a development of health knowledge. Students will develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills through real-life project-based learning experiences using the CNMI PSS Health Standards.

Mathematics

Algebra 1 (Semester 1)

1 credit course

This course will provide opportunities for students to develop and communicate an understanding of algebraic representation as a prerequisite to all higher mathematics courses. The content for this course is aligned to the common state standards (traditional pathway). The fundamental purpose of this course is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades.

Geometry (Semester 1)

1 credit course

The course is designed to have students make sense of problems and persevere in solving them, reason abstractly and quantitatively, construct viable arguments and critique the reasoning of others, model with mathematics, use appropriate tools strategically, attend to precision, look for and make use of structure, and look for and express regularity in repeated reasoning through the content of geometry.

Algebra 2 (Semester 1)

1 credit course

This course is designed for students to develop advanced algebra skills in algebraic operations and functions. Students will examine concepts such as linear equations and equalities, exponential, quadratic, polynomial, rational functions through online tools such as documents, tutorials, and videos.

AP Statistics (Semester 1)

1 credit course

AP Statistics involves the study of four main areas: exploratory analysis; planning a study; probability; and statistical inference. Students are expected to have mathematical maturity and quantitative reasoning ability. In contrast to many math classes, this course will require reading of the text. This AP Statistics course is taught as an activity-based course in which students actively construct their own understanding of the concepts and techniques of statistics.

Social Studies

NMI History

1 credit course

This course offers an overview of the Northern Mariana Islands' history in its global context from ancient times to the Covenant and Constitution establishing the CNMI. In addition to the content area, students will work on the literacy proficiency areas of Common Core Standards relative to Social Studies. The purpose of this goal is to ensure that students develop the necessary skills for post-secondary life, that is, college and career readiness.

US History

1 credit course

This course provides a general overview of the history of the United States. In chronological order, students will explore America's past through examining the cultural, political, geographical, economical and technological changes that have taken place and have helped to shape and guide us as a nation today. Topics will include issues relating to social, government, economic, and philosophical issues throughout US History

US Government

1 credit course

This course involves the study of democratic ideas, balance of powers, and tension between the practical and ideal in national policymaking. Students will be involved in the rigorous study and analysis of the importance of various constitutional principles, rights and procedures, institutions, and political processes that impact us as citizens of the United States, and as residents of Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands. This class will also involve a study of the structure of the U.S. economy, and the ways in which the government and the economy are inexplicably tied.

Language Other than English (LOTE)

Chamorro Language and Heritage Studies

1 credit course

This course is designed to help students develop fundamental knowledge of the official Chamorro Orthography (spelling rules and grammar) comprising of 14 rules. It is designed for both speakers and non-speakers of the Chamorro Language and includes sections on Language and Orthography; Reading and Writing. The course mostly consists of project-based learning.

Japanese 1

1 credit course

The Japanese 1 course will introduce the basic grammatical structure of the language as well as introduce cultural and historical aspects of Japan. Students will also learn how to read the Japanese characters (hiragana and katakana).

Japanese 2

1 credit course

The Japanese 2 course will continue on the Japanese 1 grammar introduction as well as introduce cultural and geography of Japan. This class will also introduce students to the third Japanese characters of Kanji (also known as the Chinese Characters).

Electives

Intro to Photography

1 credit course

This course is designed for students interested in digital fine art photography. The content of the course will allow students an opportunity to learn basic to intermediate photography skills, digital/ manual camera operation, and graphic editing software. This course includes basic photography concepts, techniques and hands-on-training. The focus for this course is photography as an art form and for vehicles of self-expression

Journalism

1 credit course

This course will cover the fundamentals of journalism. Students will be able to study journalism as they take a closer look at media and various media mediums that they as consumers encounter on a daily basis. They will learn investigative skills, responsible reporting, techniques of journalistic writing, as they read, respond and write their own articles, conduct interviews, research, write and design their very own publications.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How many Student Portal courses can I take during the semester?

- Students can take up to two (2) Student Portal courses in a semester. It is important to note that Student Portal courses are a supplement to a student's regular course schedule at their school.

When will I meet my eTeacher(s)?

- After registering with your counselor, your eTeacher(s) will communicate with you about attending orientation for the Student Portal courses. The orientation is mandatory and you will learn about course navigation and the other necessary information to successfully complete your online course.

Will my online course grade affect my academic record?

- Yes, all grades earned from Student Portal courses will be reported to your school and recorded in your academic transcript.

How do I withdraw from a Student Portal course?

- You can communicate your intent to withdraw from Student Portal courses with your eCounselor and/or eTeacher. The deadline to withdraw for the Fall 2020 term is October 09, 2020.

Where can I get more information about the Student Portal Program?

- For more information about the Student Portal Program, please email the Office of Instructional Technology & Distance Education Program at: distance.education@cnmipss.org.



CNMI Public School System
Office of Instructional Technology & Distance Education



Fall 2020 Student Portal Program
Parent/Guardian Consent Form

Student Name: _____

Student Email Address: _____

Contact Number: _____ Grade Level: _____

Course # 1: _____ Course # 2 (OPTIONAL): _____

Fall 2020 Student Portal Registration Period: September 08, 2020 – September 25, 2020

Fall 2020 Student Portal Term Dates: Courses begin on October 04, 2020 and
end on January 09, 2020
for a total of 14 weeks of instruction

By signing this form, you provide consent for your child to register for Student Portal online course(s). and acknowledge your understanding of the parent and student expectations as outlined below.

- I understand that my child is intending to enroll in a Student Portal online course(s) through the CNMI PSS Office of Instructional Technology & Distance Education.
- I understand that Student Portal online courses are not the same as Remote Learning courses that students are completing at their respective school. Student Portal online courses serve as a supplement to a student's regular school schedule.
- I understand that Student Portal courses require students to possess strong organizational skills, study habits, and discipline to ensure their academic success. Additionally, I understand that Student Portal coursework is delivered in an accelerated instructional format.
- I understand that my child needs to have regular access to reliable internet and a computer to complete their online coursework.
- I understand that registering for a Student Portal online course does not guarantee placement in a course. In the event a course has reached its maximum capacity, upperclassmen will be given priority enrollment.
- I understand that if my child decides to withdraw from Student Portal courses, he/she must notify the eCounselor and/or eTeacher about their intent to withdraw by the withdrawal deadline, October 09, 2020.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Contact Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please upload this signed consent form with your child's registration form for Student Portal Courses. The registration form can be accessed at: http://bit.ly/StudentPortal_Fall2020Form