



COURSE CATALOG & CURRICULUM GUIDE

2026 – 2027 Academic Year

“Where High School Meets Higher Education.”

Viera, Florida

A Private College Preparatory School

Listed in the Florida Private School Directory

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ACE credit recommendations referenced in this catalog are drawn from the College Board's official CLEP exam pages (clep.collegeboard.org); exam-overview summaries are written independently by Hawking Academy of Science.

THE HAWKING PHILOSOPHY

Hawking Academy of Science is a private college preparatory school in Viera, Florida, dedicated to empowering students to graduate not just ready for college, but already ahead of it. The school holds that the traditional boundary between high school and higher education is an artificial one — Hawking Academy students don't wait until college to begin college.

Through Honors-level instruction paired with a structured College-Level Examination Program (CLEP®) pathway, graduates build college readiness and earn transferable college credit before they ever receive a high school diploma. Every student is individually guided through a four-year academic plan designed to maximize college readiness, credit accumulation, and long-term success.

Named in honor of the world's most celebrated theoretical physicist, Hawking Academy of Science embodies Stephen Hawking's conviction that curiosity, persistence, and intellectual rigor have no limits. The school exists for the student who wants more: more depth, more challenge, and more opportunity than a conventional high school program provides.

30+

AVG. COLLEGE CREDITS AT
GRADUATION

100%

COLLEGE PREPARATORY DIPLOMA

7

CURRICULUM DEPARTMENTS

The Three-Layer Curriculum

Hawking Academy's academic architecture is built in three layers, each designed to move students beyond the standard high school experience.

1. Core High School

A strong foundation across every core credit area required for a Florida Standard Diploma, ensuring every graduate leaves with a complete and state-recognized course of study.

2. Honors Program

Expanded primary-source reading and deep analytical inquiry across all core subjects. Honors sections move at a faster pace and hold students to a college-preparatory standard of independent work, written analysis, and disciplinary rigor.

3. CLEP® Pathways

Structured examination preparation for earning transferable college credit through the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP). Coursework in the Honors Program is deliberately sequenced to prepare students for the corresponding CLEP exam, so that classroom learning and college credit-earning are one continuous track rather than two separate efforts.

Building the Transcript

Hawking Academy's official high school transcripts document standard, Honors, dual-enrollment, and CLEP coursework side by side, giving colleges a precise map of a student's academic journey. Every student receives dedicated college counseling to build a four-year plan aligned to an intended major and target institutions, organized in three phases:

- Identification — clarifying target schools, admissions requirements, and academic goals.
- Course Planning — building a four-year roadmap that maximizes how Honors coursework and CLEP credits transfer.
- Application Strategy — navigating the application timeline, personal statements, standardized testing, and Florida's Bright Futures scholarship requirements.

Counseling also includes integrated preparation for the SAT and ACT, and specific guidance on the score thresholds, required credit areas, and coursework documentation needed for each level of Florida's Bright Futures award.

CURRICULUM DISCIPLINES

The descriptions below outline Hawking Academy's course offerings across its seven curriculum departments: Mathematics, Science, English, Social Studies, Classical Languages, Fine Arts, and Physical Education. Courses are taught at the Honors or dual-enrollment level and are sequenced, wherever possible, to build toward a related CLEP examination, detailed in the CLEP Pathways section of this catalog.

Mathematics

The Mathematics curriculum carries students from foundational algebra through calculus, building the fluency and problem-solving discipline that underlie every scientific and technical field. Students use graphing technology throughout the sequence and are expected to move fluidly between algebraic, numerical, and graphical representations of a problem.

Algebra I Honors

A fast-paced entry point into algebraic thinking that pushes beyond the standard course's pace and depth. Students work through linear and quadratic equations and inequalities, systems of equations, polynomial factoring and graphing, and manipulation of rational expressions, with class time built around problem-solving strategy rather than rote procedure.

Prerequisite: Readiness assessment and teacher recommendation.

Geometry Honors

A fast-moving, proof-based approach to geometry that builds on Algebra I. Students move from inductive observation to formal deductive argument, writing two-column and paragraph proofs about angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, and circles, and applying similarity, congruence, and measurement formulas to find perimeter, area, surface area, and volume across a range of two- and three-dimensional figures.

Prerequisite: Algebra I Honors.

Algebra II Honors

An accelerated sweep through the full Algebra II curriculum and beyond, treating functions, systems of linear and quadratic equations, polynomials, rational and radical expressions, complex numbers, exponentials and logarithms, and sequences and series as one connected toolkit. Technology-assisted exploration and open-ended problem sets run throughout, setting students up for both Pre-Calculus and the CLEP College Algebra exam.

Prerequisite: Geometry Honors.

Pre-Calculus Honors

The bridge course between algebra and calculus, built to sharpen a student's fluency across every major function family before they meet limits and derivatives. Coursework moves through polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, and trigonometric functions and their inverses, then layers in vectors, parametric and polar representations, complex numbers, conic sections, matrices, and sequences — closing with a first look at the concept of a limit and preparation for the CLEP Precalculus exam.

Prerequisite: Algebra II Honors.

Calculus 1 Honors

Opens Hawking Academy's calculus sequence with differential calculus: what a limit is, how a derivative is built from one, and what a derivative can reveal about a real situation — a slope, a rate of change, an optimal value. The course closes by introducing integration and the idea of area under a curve, laying groundwork for the CLEP Calculus exam.

Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus Honors.

Calculus 2 Honors

Picks up where Calculus 1 leaves off, pushing further into integration technique and adding growth-and-decay modeling, parametric and polar curves, vectors, and an early look at infinite series. Students are expected to move comfortably between graphical, numerical, and symbolic representations of the same idea.

Prerequisite: Calculus 1 Honors.

Science

The Science curriculum is laboratory-driven and sequenced to build from foundational biology and chemistry into advanced, college-level science coursework, giving every graduate a broad, lab-tested scientific foundation before college.

Biology Honors

An honors-paced tour of biology built for students eyeing science- or technology-heavy careers. The year opens with the scientific method and lab safety, then works from the molecular level — the chemistry underlying life, cell structure, genetics — outward through microorganisms and the mechanisms driving biological diversity, finishing with the life functions shared across the animal kingdom, from simple invertebrates to mammals. Students are expected to synthesize primary material, not just recall it.

Prerequisite: Successful completion of Physical Science.

Chemistry Honors

A problem-solving-heavy first course in chemistry for students headed toward technical fields. Students build fluency in atomic theory, periodic trends, bonding and naming compounds, stoichiometry, solution chemistry, equilibrium, reaction rates, and gas behavior, working through both lecture-based derivation and hands-on lab investigation to develop the quantitative reasoning the CLEP Chemistry exam expects.

Prerequisite: Biology Honors. Corequisite: Algebra II Honors.

Physics Honors

A calculus-driven first course in mechanics, built for students bound for engineering or the physical sciences. Motion, forces, energy, momentum, rotation, and oscillation are each developed using calculus rather than algebraic shortcuts, with a hands-on lab attached to nearly every unit. The pace assumes real comfort with math.

Prerequisite or corequisite: Calculus 1 Honors.

Environmental Science Honors

An advanced, cross-disciplinary capstone that asks students to think like environmental scientists rather than just study them. Drawing on biology, chemistry, geology, and public policy together, the course works through how ecosystems function, how human activity disrupts them, and how to weigh competing solutions to real environmental problems by their costs, benefits, and risks.

Prerequisite: Biology Honors and Chemistry Honors, or equivalent teacher recommendation.

English

The English curriculum builds from foundational literature, grammar, and composition into a capstone language-and-literature sequence, giving every graduate the close-reading, research, and argumentative writing skills expected of a first-year college student.

English I Honors

The starting point of Hawking Academy's college-preparatory English sequence, built around close reading and structured argument rather than passive coverage. Students move through novels, poetry, short fiction, and a full Shakespeare play, writing an MLA-formatted research paper along the way, while regular discussion and presentation work builds the collaborative habits an Honors track expects from day one.

College Composition I Honors

The first semester of Hawking Academy's college-level composition sequence, developing the analytical and argumentative writing expected of a first-year college writer. Students practice source-based argument, synthesis, and revision technique, building toward the reading and writing skills assessed on the CLEP College Composition examination.

College Composition II Honors

The second semester of Hawking Academy's college-level composition sequence, extending the argumentative and research writing introduced in College Composition I Honors into longer, source-driven projects. Students complete a documented research paper and refine their command of Standard Written English in preparation for the CLEP College Composition examination.

Prerequisite: College Composition I Honors. Prepares students for the CLEP College Composition examination.

American Literature Honors

A survey of American literature from the precolonial period to the present, examining the major authors, movements, and literary periods that define the American literary tradition. Students read critically, think clearly, and write concisely about literature on a daily basis, building an analytical toolkit they will use throughout their academic careers.

Prerequisite: Completion of two years of high school English with strong performance in Honors coursework and teacher recommendation. Prepares students for the CLEP American Literature examination.

Social Studies

The Social Studies curriculum builds the historical knowledge, quantitative literacy, and civic understanding a college-bound student needs to engage critically with the ancient world, American institutions, the human mind, and the modern economy — running from a classical-history sequence that pairs naturally with Latin study through a full slate of advanced, CLEP-aligned social science coursework.

Ancient Greece & Rome Honors

A survey of the civilizations of ancient Greece and Rome, from the Bronze Age through the fall of the Western Roman Empire, examining their political institutions, mythology, warfare, and the artistic and philosophical achievements that continue to shape Western civilization. The course pairs naturally with the Classical Languages sequence, reinforcing the historical and cultural context behind students' Latin study.

The Roman Republic Honors

A focused study of Rome from its legendary founding through the fall of the Republic, tracing the development of Roman law, the Senate and popular assemblies, the Punic Wars, and the political crises — from the Gracchi through Julius Caesar — that ultimately ended representative government in Rome.

The Roman Empire Honors

A continuation of Hawking Academy's Roman history sequence, following Rome from the rise of Augustus through its transformation into a Mediterranean-spanning empire, its cultural and engineering achievements, and its eventual division and decline in the West.

Prerequisite: The Roman Republic Honors recommended.

Western Civilization Honors

A survey of European history and thought from antiquity through the modern era, tracing the development of Western political, religious, and intellectual institutions from the Greeks and Romans through the Middle Ages, the Renaissance and Reformation, and into the Enlightenment and beyond.

Prepares students for the CLEP Western Civilization I examination.

General Psychology Honors

An intensive, CLEP-aligned survey of introductory psychology covering the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, states of consciousness, learning, cognition, motivation and emotion, personality, psychological disorders and treatment, social psychology, and basic statistics and research methods.

Prepares students for the CLEP Introductory Psychology examination. Often completed as a condensed second-semester or summer course.

American Government Honors

A study of the institutions, processes, and political culture of the United States government, covering the constitutional framework, the three branches of the federal government, civil rights and civil liberties, political parties and elections, and the policymaking process.

Prepares students for the CLEP American Government examination.

U.S. History Honors

A chronologically organized, primary-source-driven study of American history from the colonial era to the present, with particular attention to the political, economic, and social developments that shaped the modern nation. Students examine foundational documents and landmark events, develop historical arguments supported by evidence, and write extended analytical essays connecting past developments to present-day institutions.

Prepares students for the CLEP History of the United States I and History of the United States II examinations.

Sociology Honors

An introduction to the sociological perspective — the study of institutions, social patterns, social processes, and social stratification. Students examine major sociological theories and apply them to real-world social structures, from the family and education to race, class, and social change.

Prepares students for the CLEP Introductory Sociology examination.

Macroeconomics Honors

A study of the principles of economics as they apply to an economy as a whole. Students examine the measurement of economic performance, national income and price determination, the financial sector, and the monetary and fiscal policy tools used to manage inflation, unemployment, and long-term economic growth.

Prepares students for the CLEP Principles of Macroeconomics examination.

Microeconomics Honors

A study of the economic principles that apply to individual consumers, firms, and markets. Students examine supply and demand, consumer and producer behavior, market structures ranging from perfect competition to monopoly, and the pricing of the factors of production — labor, capital, and land.

Prepares students for the CLEP Principles of Microeconomics examination.

Classical Languages

Hawking Academy's Classical Languages sequence carries students through five years of Latin, from foundational grammar and vocabulary through advanced literary translation and analysis.

Latin I

The entry point to Hawking Academy's Latin sequence, built to give students a working vocabulary and grammatical foundation while introducing them to Roman daily life and mythology. Students trace English words back to their Latin roots, work through short translation passages, and meet the major figures of classical legend along the way.

Latin II

Builds directly on Latin I's grammar and vocabulary while shifting into real historical prose, primarily excerpts from Caesar. As sentences grow more complex, students sharpen their sense of Latin syntax, continue mapping English vocabulary back to its Latin roots, and go deeper into Roman history and custom.

Prerequisite: Latin I.

Latin III Honors

Moves students from grammar-focused study into literary Latin, reading selections from Ovid, Catullus, Cicero, Caesar, and Livy. The focus shifts toward how these authors use language — rhetorical devices, sentence construction, and stylistic choice — as students take on increasingly unadapted texts.

Prerequisite: Strong performance in Latin II.

Latin IV Honors

The second-to-last year of the sequence, where translation work matures into real literary interpretation. Students work across Golden and Silver Age Latin as well as medieval texts, with focused attention on Vergil and Caesar to set up the capstone reading in Latin V.

Prerequisite: Strong performance in Latin III Honors.

Latin V

The final year of Hawking Academy's Latin program, centered on unadapted readings from Vergil's Aeneid and the letters of Pliny the Younger. Students analyze how these authors build meaning through language and style while using the texts as a window into Roman values and history.

Prerequisite: Grade of B in Latin IV Honors or teacher recommendation.

Fine Arts

Hawking Academy's Fine Arts offerings currently center on its Percussion ensemble program, satisfying the Visual and Performing Arts credit required for graduation while giving students a structured, sequential performance track.

Percussion I

An introductory course for beginning percussionists, building foundational technique on snare drum, mallet keyboard percussion, and auxiliary instruments through guided practice and ensemble rehearsal. Students learn basic rhythm reading, sticking technique, and ensemble etiquette while preparing for public performance.

Percussion II

A continuation of Hawking Academy's percussion sequence, building on the foundational technique developed in Percussion I with more advanced rhythms, expanded mallet keyboard repertoire, and a greater degree of independent part preparation within the ensemble.

Prerequisite: Percussion I.

Percussion III

A performance-based course for intermediate percussionists, building technique across the standard battery, keyboard, and auxiliary percussion instruments through ensemble rehearsal and public performance. Students continue developing sight-reading, rhythmic precision, and ensemble listening skills.

Prerequisite: Percussion I and II or equivalent audition.

Percussion IV Honors

An honors-level continuation of Hawking Academy's percussion sequence for advanced students, incorporating more demanding solo and ensemble literature, independent practice logs, and a leadership role within the ensemble. Students refine technique across mallet keyboard percussion, timpani, and drum set.

Prerequisite: Percussion III.

Percussion V Honors

The capstone course of the percussion sequence, for students in their final year of the program. Students take on a principal or section-leader role within the ensemble, prepare an individual solo for adjudicated performance, and mentor less experienced percussionists.

Prerequisite: Percussion IV Honors.

Physical Education

Hawking Academy's Physical Education offerings satisfy Florida's Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE) graduation requirement.

HOPE

Health Opportunities through Physical Education (HOPE) combines physical conditioning and skill-based activity with instruction in health literacy, nutrition, and wellness, consistent with Florida's HOPE graduation requirement.

CLEP® EXAMINATION PATHWAYS

Hawking Academy's CLEP pathway is what turns Honors coursework into transferable college credit. The College-Level Examination Program (CLEP®), administered by the College Board, allows students to demonstrate college-level mastery of introductory course material and earn real academic credit — accepted at more than 2,900 colleges and universities nationwide — without sitting through the corresponding college course.

Each Hawking Academy Honors course is sequenced to prepare students for one or more matching CLEP exams. The tables below are organized by curriculum discipline and summarize, in Hawking Academy's own words, what each exam covers, along with the credit hours recommended by the American Council on Education (ACE) — the number of semester hours a receiving college is likely to award for a qualifying score, though each institution ultimately sets its own credit-granting policy.

ACE credit recommendations are drawn from the College Board's official CLEP exam pages (clep.collegeboard.org); exam-overview summaries below are written independently. Where noted, supplemental exam-prep information is available at no cost through Modern States Education Alliance (modernstates.org), a nonprofit partner that offers free online courses aligned to CLEP exam content.

Mathematics

CLEP® EXAM	ACE CREDIT	EXAM OVERVIEW
College Algebra	3 sem. hrs.	Tests the algebra skills built in a typical first college math course — solving and graphing equations and inequalities, working with exponential and logarithmic functions, and manipulating expressions across different number systems.
Precalculus	3 sem. hrs.	Measures readiness for calculus by testing how well a student can identify, graph, and manipulate a wide range of function types, from basic linear and quadratic forms to trigonometric, logarithmic, and piecewise relationships.
Calculus	4 sem. hrs.	Matches a first college calculus course, weighted mostly toward limits and derivatives, with the remainder devoted to integration and its applications.

Science

CLEP® EXAM	ACE CREDIT	EXAM OVERVIEW
Biology	6 sem. hrs.	Spans a full year of introductory college biology, moving from the molecular and cellular level up through whole organisms and finally to populations and ecosystems.
Chemistry	6 sem. hrs.	Matches a full year of general college chemistry, from atomic structure and the states of matter through chemical reactions, equilibrium, energy changes, and hands-on laboratory technique.

Social Studies

CLEP® EXAM	ACE CREDIT	EXAM OVERVIEW
American Government	3 sem. hrs.	Goes beyond a basic civics course to test how the federal government actually functions — its institutions, the behavior of political actors, and the processes that shape policy.
History of the U.S. I: Early Colonization to 1877	3 sem. hrs.	Spans the first half of the American story, opening with the earliest European settlements and closing with the aftermath of the Civil War.
History of the U.S. II: 1865 to the Present	3 sem. hrs.	Picks up where the first exam ends, tracing the nation's path from Reconstruction into the present era.
Western Civilization I: Ancient Near East to 1648	3 sem. hrs.	Traces the roots of Western civilization from the earliest Near Eastern and classical Mediterranean societies through the medieval period and into the cultural upheavals of the Renaissance and Reformation.
Introductory Psychology	3 sem. hrs.	Surveys the major subfields of psychology — from the biology behind behavior to how people learn, think, develop personalities, experience mental illness, and interact in groups.
Introductory Sociology	3 sem. hrs.	Tests how well a student can read society through a sociologist's lens, recognizing patterns in institutions, group behavior, and inequality, and applying the field's core theoretical frameworks.
Principles of Macroeconomics	3 sem. hrs.	Examines how a national economy behaves as a whole — output, employment, and prices — and the policy levers the government and central bank use to influence them.
Principles of Microeconomics	3 sem. hrs.	Zooms in on individual decision-makers: how households and businesses respond to prices, how competition shapes different market types, and how labor and capital get priced.

English & Composition

CLEP® EXAM	ACE CREDIT	EXAM OVERVIEW
College Composition	6 sem. hrs.	Evaluates the writing expected in a first-year college composition course through a mix of grammar and rhetoric questions plus two timed essays that require building and supporting an argument from provided sources.
American Literature	3 sem. hrs.	Traces the American literary tradition across four centuries, from its earliest colonial voices to contemporary writers.

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