

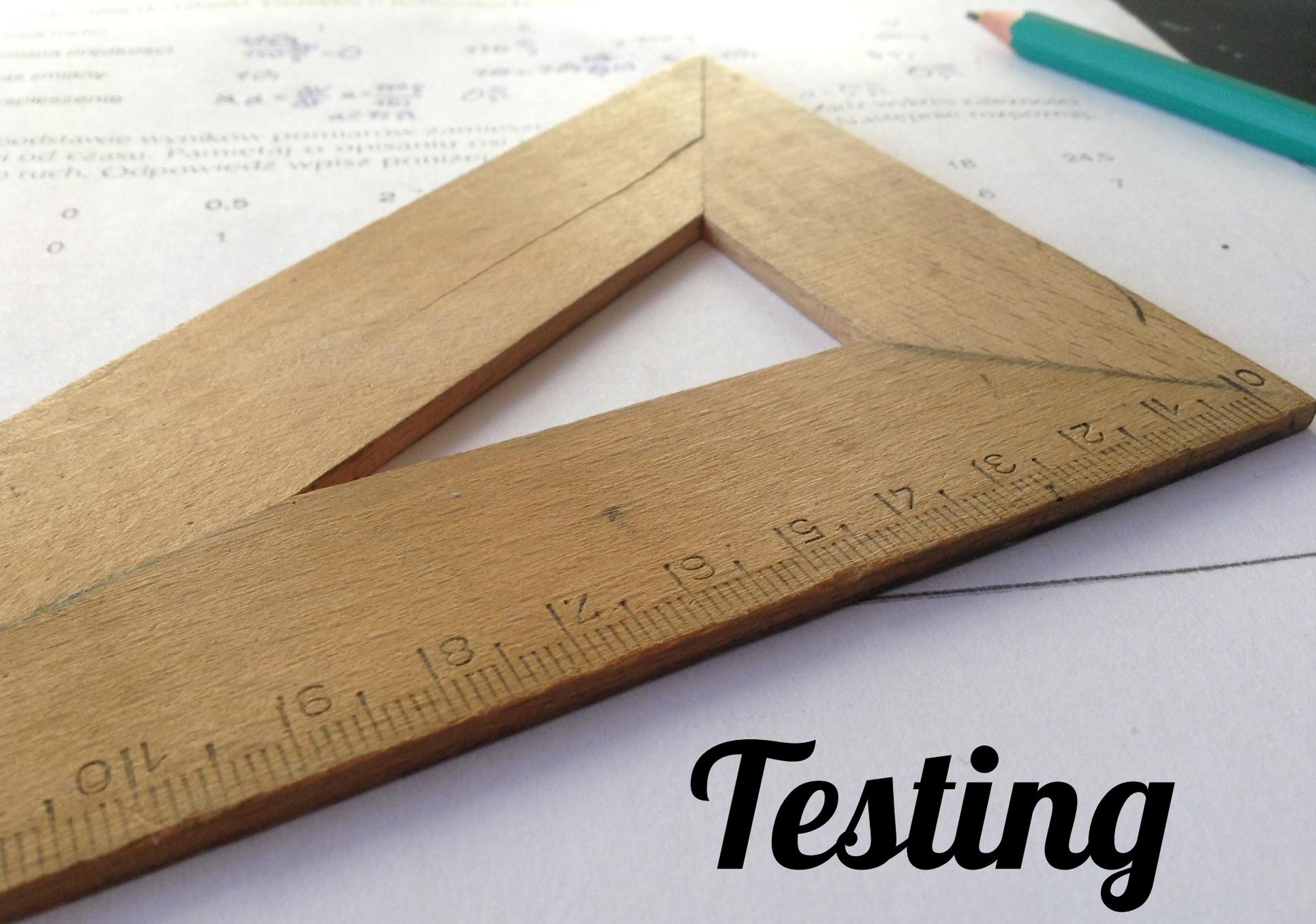
A row of antique books on a dark wooden shelf. The books have various spines, some with gold lettering and others with plain leather or cloth. The text is centered in a white box with a red border.

HEY JUNIORS,  
LET'S TALK ABOUT TESTING  
AND SCHEDULING



## LEARNING TARGETS

1. I CAN DESCRIBE THE *TESTING RECOMMENDATIONS* FOR THE SAT & ACT.
2. I KNOW HOW TO SIGN UP FOR THE SAT & ACT.
3. I CAN DESCRIBE WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO PLAN FOR MY SENIOR YEAR.
4. I CAN DESCRIBE THE *RECOMMENDED APPLICATION PLAN* FOR APPLYING TO COLLEGE.
5. I HAVE IDEAS ABOUT HOW TO GET THE MOST OUT OF COLLEGE VISITS.



*Testing*

# COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS

## SAT/ACT

- TAKE BOTH TESTS (OFFICIALLY) AT LEAST ONCE IN THE SPRING OF YOUR JUNIOR YEAR.
- REPEAT AT LEAST THE TEST YOU DID THE BEST ON IN THE FALL OF YOUR SENIOR YEAR.
- ALMOST ALL SCHOOLS ACCEPT EITHER TEST. CHECK WITH SPECIFIC SCHOOLS TO CONFIRM

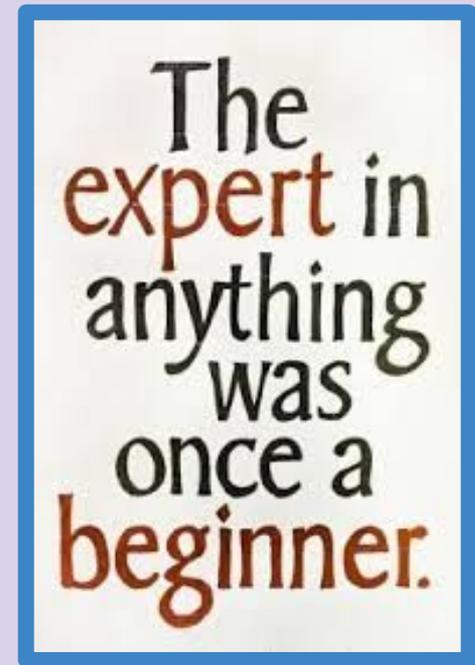
# WHAT YOU SHOULD BE DOING NOW REGARDING TESTING



- SIGN UP FOR SAT/ACT TESTS VIA TESTING WEBSITES
  - WATCH REGISTRATION DEADLINES
  - 4 FREE SCORE REPORTS WHEN REGISTERING (CONSIDER IF THE SCHOOL IS TEST OPTIONAL AND IF YOU THINK YOUR SCORES WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR APPLICATION)
  - USE FIRST SAT/ACT TEST RESULTS TO IDENTIFY STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESS, THEN TEST AGAIN.
  - KAHN ACADEMY

# TESTING RECOMMENDATIONS

- TAKE SEVERAL PRACTICE TESTS
  - ◆ BURNHAM, VSAC RESOURCE LIBRARY, BOOKSTORES
  - ◆ SAT BOOTCAMP THROUGH PARKS AND REC
    - MARCH 12TH
  
- STUDYING CAN IMPROVE YOUR SCORES BIG TIME.
  - ◆ IMPROVE UP TO 300 POINTS!
  - ◆ MORE MONEY FROM COLLEGES & MORE ADMISSIONS OPTIONS!
  
- CHS COUNSELING WEBSITE = RESOURCES



# TESTING RECOMMENDATIONS

- PLAN, PLAN PLAN. THE SPRING OF JUNIOR YEAR IS BUSY! SATS, ACTS, AP TESTS, FINALS, SBACS, LIFE... GET YOUR CALENDARS OUT NOW.
- IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO TAKE ACT WITH WRITING. SAT NO LONGER HAS WRITING.



# 2022 SAT SIGN UP ONLINE!

[COLLEGEBOARD.ORG](https://collegeboard.org)

## MAY 7 TEST CENTERS

REGISTER BY APRIL 8

- SOUTH BURLINGTON
- ESSEX
- BFA ST ALBANS
- RICE
- MILTON

## JUNE 4 TEST CENTERS

REGISTER BY MAY 5

- ESSEX
- SOUTH BURLINGTON
- PLATTSBURGH

# ACT 2022 SIGN UP ONLINE- [ACT.ORG](https://act.org)

## April 2 Test Centers

reg by 2/25

- CHS
- South Burlington
- CVU
- MMU

## June 11 Test Centers

Req. by 5/6

- Essex
- CVU

## July 16 Test Centers

Req. by 6 /17

- CVU

# A LITTLE PERSPECTIVE...



- REMEMBER THAT TEST SCORES ARE *ONLY* ONE FACTOR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS CONSIDER IN AN APPLICANT.
- THEY ALSO CONSIDER RIGOR OF COURSES TAKEN, GRADES, ESSAYS, RECOMMENDATIONS, INTERVIEWS & EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AKA THE HOLISTIC APPROACH.
- THERE ARE MANY TEST OPTIONAL SCHOOLS. THESE CAN BE FOUND AT [WWW.FAIRTEST.ORG](http://WWW.FAIRTEST.ORG)

# PLANNING COURSES FOR SENIOR YEAR



# WHAT YOU SHOULD BE DOING NOW REGARDING SCHEDULING

- CAREFULLY SELECT YOUR SENIOR YEAR COURSES. THINK OF REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION AND COLLEGES YOU ARE PURSUING.
- IF YOU ARE CONSIDERING D1 OR D2 ATHLETICS, UNDERSTAND NCAA ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS (EX. BE CAREFUL WHAT ENGLISH YOU ARE CHOOSING FOR NEXT YEAR AS SOME ARE NOT NCAA APPROVED).
- REMEMBER TO TAKE A STRONG ACADEMIC COURSE LOAD YOUR SENIOR YEAR. (I.E. KEEP GOING WITH ALL YOUR CORE CLASSES)

# WHAT COLLEGES LOOK FOR IN YOUR SENIOR YEAR SCHEDULE

- REMEMBER THAT MOST OFTEN THE OUTSTANDING FACTOR COLLEGES ARE LOOKING FOR IS COURSE RIGOR.
- IN OTHER WORDS ARE YOU CONTINUING TO CHALLENGE YOURSELF AND TAKING THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE COURSE SEQUENCE?





The  
UNIVERSITY  
of VERMONT

DEPARTMENT OF ADMISSIONS & FINANCIAL AID

January 11, 2002

Denise Demers, Guidance Counselor  
Colchester High School  
PO Box 900  
Laker Ln.  
Colchester, VT 05446

Dear Denise,

I hope your new year is off to a good start. At the University of Vermont, we're extremely busy as the year begins, but I want to take a moment to provide you with some information that may help you counsel your college-bound students.

As you know, the University's leadership has focused its attention on enhancing the quality of undergraduate life at UVM and on enrolling those students most able to benefit from a rigorous academic experience. Initiatives such as the Green & Gold Scholarship and expansion of the Vermont Scholars Program have succeeded in attracting more strong Vermont students to the University. While the University of Vermont undergraduate applicant pool has been holding steady for a number of years at about 8,000 applications, this year I am witnessing a dramatic change in that trend. We received a significant increase in Early Action and Early Decision applications and that gain appears to be holding for the regular pool as well. Of course, we haven't yet reached our January 15 deadline, and it takes several weeks before we are certain of the final results. Nevertheless, I thought it was important for you to know that application volume from both Vermont and Out-of-State students seems to have increased significantly.

In December, UVM responded to this trend by being more conservative than usual with early decisions, something you may have noticed with our decisions for your Early Action and Early Decision candidates. Should the application volume increase hold, it is likely that we will offer admission to students with somewhat stronger academic records than you have seen in recent years. The university continues to examine all applicant records comprehensively to ensure that the entire student background is considered when gauging a student's potential for success at UVM, but in this climate it may behoove some of your students to consider submitting an extra one or two college applications to ensure that they have plenty of options as they complete their planning for the fall.

We will keep you abreast of the UVM enrollment picture as it evolves. In the meantime, you may find this an opportune moment to remind your younger students to challenge themselves academically throughout their high school years to enhance their chances of admission to their state's University. I wish you the best of luck with this busy season.

Sincerely,

Donald M. Honeman  
Director of Admissions and Financial Aid

Donald M. Honeman  
330 Waterman Building, Burlington, VT 05405-0160, Telephone (802) 656-8793, Fax (802) 656-4076  
E-mail: Donald.Honeman@uvm.edu

Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Employer

- SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASED VOLUME
- MORE CONSERVATIVE DECISIONS
- ADMITTING STUDENTS WITH SOMEWHAT STRONGER ACADEMIC RECORDS.

**Admissions Office**

163 South Willard Street, PO Box 670  
Burlington, Vermont 05402-0670, USA

e-mail: [admission@champlain.edu](mailto:admission@champlain.edu)

Phone: (802) 860-2727 / Toll-free: (800) 570-5858

Fax: (802) 860-2767 / TDD: (802) 860-2744

[www.champlain.edu](http://www.champlain.edu)

To: College Counselors in our sending schools  
From: Jo Churchill, Director of Admissions  
Date: March 2002  
RE: Senior year course selection

The following letter has been mailed to all of our sophomore and junior prospective students. We wanted you to be aware of this mailing, and trust that it will assist you in your continued efforts to convince students of the importance of senior year courses and achievement:

Dear [Sophomore/Junior Prospective Students]:

Your senior year courses and grades matter very much in the college admissions process. Don't become one of the students denied admissions to a college of your choice because you opted to take a minimal and lightweight course load for your last year of high school.

*You still have time to avoid this mistake.*

**Colleges are looking for motivated learners, and there are several ways we evaluate motivation: course selection and levels, AP exams, attendance, and effort reflected in teacher comments and recommendations.** Colleges view a willingness to take a challenging curriculum throughout high school as a good indicator of success in college. The more you challenge yourself, the better prepared you will be for college.

Note that doing well in the SATs or ACTs will not make up for a weak senior year curriculum.

**Champlain College definitely looks at senior year grades and course load. A lightweight or unchallenging academic load in senior year can be the basis for a decision to deny admission to an applicant.** For example, one applicant, who had already met the high school's minimum graduation requirements, was taking only Human Relationships and Film Appreciation for the entire senior year! The Admissions Committee voted to deny this applicant.

**Students who are enrolled in AP courses are strongly encouraged to take the AP exam.** This is one way to continue to challenge yourself; plus your grade on the exam could earn you college credit. Taking the exam cannot hurt your academic record, regardless of how you do on it; not taking the exam is a lost opportunity.

If you have questions about course choices available to you as a junior or senior, be sure to speak to your guidance counselor. We welcome your call or e-mail to one of our admission counselors if you have questions about our requirements.

Sincerely,

Josephine H. Churchill  
Director of Admissions  
[admission@champlain.edu](mailto:admission@champlain.edu)

• SENIOR GRADES AND  
COURSE LOAD

• AP EXAMS

• "A LIGHTWEIGHT OR  
UNCHALLENGING COURSE  
LOAD IN SENIOR YEAR CAN  
BE THE BASIS FOR A  
DECISION TO DENY  
ADMISSION TO AN  
APPLICANT."

# NOW THAT YOU HAVE THIS INTEL...

- IS THE LEVEL OF MATH YOU SELECTED CHALLENGING?
- ARE YOU TAKING THE CLASSES REQUIRED FOR YOUR MAJOR (IF YOU KNOW)?
- HAVE YOU CONSIDERED TAKING A 4<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF A LAB SCIENCE – I.E. PHYSICS OR CHEMISTRY?
- IS YOUR SCHEDULE FULL?
- ARE YOU CONTINUING IN YOUR WORLD LANGUAGE?



# A NOTE ABOUT CLASS RIGOR

- RIGOROUS COURSE LOADS ARE IMPORTANT BUT SO IS KNOWING YOUR OWN LIMITATIONS.
- RUN YOUR OWN RACE, NOT YOUR FRIEND'S RACE!



# Important Heads up

What We've Learned from Senior Surveys...

**DON'T SKIP AT!!!!!!!!!!!!**



# COLLEGE VISITS



# GETTING THE MOST OUT OF YOUR VISIT

- VISIT WHEN CLASSES ARE IN SESSION.
- CONTACT ADMISSIONS TO SET VISITS AND TOURS
  - ASK TO SIT IN ON A CLASS.
  - YOU CAN ASK TO STAY OVERNIGHT IN A DORM ROOM.
  - ASK FOR A MEAL VOUCHER. YOU SHOULD TEST THE FOOD!
- ANY VISIT IS BETTER THAN NO VISIT.
- CHECK OUT THE COLLEGES IN OUR "BACKYARD" TO LEARN WHAT YOU LIKE ABOUT SIZE, LOCATION, ETC.



# CHS GUIDANCE RECOMMENDED APPLICATION PLAN

## 2 SAFETY SCHOOLS

IE: SCHOOLS YOU  
KNOW YOU CAN GET  
INTO (FINANCIAL AS  
WELL)



## 1 - 2 REACH SCHOOLS

IE: SCHOOLS THAT  
YOUR CREDENTIALS  
ARE LOWER THAN THE  
AVERAGE INCOMING  
STUDENT

## 2 - 3 GOOD-FIT SCHOOLS

IE: YOUR CREDENTIALS MATCH THE  
AVERAGE STUDENT ADMITTED

# RESEARCH COLLEGES AND MAJORS

- USE NAVIANCE (OR CAN USE OTHER SITES LIKE WWW.COLLEGEBOARD.ORG)
- READ THROUGH INFORMATION SENT TO YOU BY VARIOUS SCHOOLS
- PROGRAMS, ACADEMICS, ENVIRONMENTS, SIZE, HOUSING, ETC...
- COLLEGE PATHWAYS CONFERENCE - VIRTUAL EVENT MARCH 5, 2022
- REGISTER ONLINE VIA VSAC WEBSITE

CONTINUE TO STAY INVOLVED IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES, AND EMPLOYMENT.

# EXPLORE INTERESTS AND OPPORTUNITIES!



- GOVERNOR'S INSTITUTES OF VERMONT (MAIN OFFICE) [WWW.GIV.ORG](http://WWW.GIV.ORG)
- INTRODUCTION TO COLLEGE AND CAREERS/DUAL ENROLLMENT (GUIDANCE)
- UVM SUMMER ACADEMY [UVM SUMMER ACADEMY](http://UVM.SUMMER.ACADEMY)
- VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL COURSES [WWW.VHSLEARNING.ORG](http://WWW.VHSLEARNING.ORG)
- VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES [WWW.UNITEDWAYNWVT.ORG](http://WWW.UNITEDWAYNWVT.ORG)
- EARLY COLLEGE (CCV, VTC, NVU)

# JUNIOR COLLEGE NIGHT WEBINAR THIS THURSDAY 6:30-8PM

QUESTIONS?

