

# EBIA ACADEMIC POLICY

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EBIA is a rigorous STEAM school with a unique focus on the social and emotional skills students need to be leaders. Students learn to be problem solvers and strong advocates who work together and take responsibility for their own learning. Students collaborate on long-term, real world projects that combine many different subjects and will learn to complete and present those projects using technology. Students balance this project work with independent blended learning tools that are personalized to meet their individual needs.

To reflect these multiple goals - the acquisition of new knowledge, the development of social and emotional skills, the creation of both strong self-advocacy and collaboration tools - EBIA has adopted a set of learning categories, or outcomes, to guide our support of students and their long-term success.

## Grade Categories

The EBIA Grade Categories are a set of research-based outcomes aimed at preparing students for postsecondary college and career success that reflect the mission and priorities of our community. For each category a rubric or set of rubrics has been developed to help ensure that students are being provided with regular feedback on their growth and needs in each of these areas. These categories are an essential component of the project- and problem-based learning curriculum and are used to provide feedback and support to students across each of these outcomes.

- **Knowledge and Thinking:** Reason, problem-solve, develop sound arguments or decisions, and create new ideas by using appropriate sources and applying the knowledge and skills of a discipline.
- **Agency:** Develop a growth mindset and take ownership over learning.
- **Collaboration:** Be a productive member of diverse teams through strong interpersonal communication, a commitment to shared success, and leadership.
- **Oral Communication:** Communicate knowledge and thinking through effective oral presentations.
- **Written Communication:** Communicate knowledge and thinking through effective writing.

## Grade Category Distribution

Category	Humanities (History, ELA, Span, Art)	STEM (Math, Science, CS)	Fitness
Agency	10%	10%	30%
Collaboration	15%	15%	40%
Knowledge and Thinking	Ranging from 30-50% depending upon subject area		30%
Oral Communication	Ranging from 10-30% depending upon subject area		N/A
Written Communication	Ranging from 20-40% depending upon subject area		N/A

## Grading Scale

Letter	A+	A	A -	B+	B	B -	C+	C	C -	F
Range	100 - 97	96 - 93	92 - 90	89 - 87	86 - 83	82 - 80	79 - 77	76 - 73	72 - 70	69 - 0

Within EBIA's online gradebook, assignments will be given a score based on our grading scale. Assignments that are "missing" or "incomplete" will also be identified within the gradebook. Those students with a final trimester grade of less than 50% will receive a 50% "floor grade" as their final trimester grade.

Please note that EBIA's grading scale does not include a grade of "D." Those students scoring a 70% or above are considered to be consistently demonstrating a basic mastery of skills and content. Those students scoring below a 70% are considered to be not consistently demonstrating a basic mastery of skills and content, and therefore in need of additional support. This support may include engaging in EBIA's Revision Policy (as outlined below), attending office hours, and/or being recommended for a school support team (SST) meeting with teachers and family.

## **Common Rubrics:**

EBIA courses will utilize the EBIA Grading Category Rubrics to assess students during project work. Teachers may choose to focus on only specific strands (rows) of the rubric at different parts of a project or different times of the year, or may add rows to account for specific content knowledge that is associated with the project.

## **Category Grading:**

Each assignment may be assessed and graded on one or more of the categories listed above. These categories are meant to communicate to the student clear information about their performance in that area and the criteria for assessment in that area should be communicated clearly. When talking about grades, teachers and students can move from “what grade did I get on the project?” to “my written communication was strong, but how could I have done better in collaboration?”.

## **Group and Individual Grades:**

All courses at EBIA will include a blend of both collaborative and individual assignments. Within a project, students will have the opportunity to be assessed multiple times. Some of these assessments will be group grades based on work completed collaboratively; however every project will also include individual assessments that will allow students to show mastery independently. Teachers may use their discretion to modify the grades of students in the group based on observed/documented contributions. Grades may be modified up or down, depending on the circumstances.

## **Self and Peer Evaluation:**

During each project cycle students will evaluate themselves and their peers using the collaboration rubric . While peer evaluations will contribute to a student's overall collaboration grade, they will not be the only method of assessment and will be a smaller portion of a student’s overall grade.

## **Academic Honesty**

Please see the Behavior Policy section in the EBIA SY 18.19 Student and Parent Handbook

## Revision (Sankofa) Policy:

All students are expected to master skills and content that are aligned to CA State Standards. In the spirit of continuous improvement, EBIA's revision policy is designed so that students are provided the ability to demonstrate mastery through revision and reflection.

- All assignments will be scored within two weeks of the assignment deadline.
- All students will have the opportunity to revise submitted Oral Communication, Written Communication and Knowledge and Thinking coursework that has received a score of below 85%.
- Before a revision is submitted, students must complete the designated Revision Reflection form.
- Revised assignments must be submitted within two weeks of the date upon which the assignment was scored.
- Assessments may be revised once.
- Late Assignments
  - LS - Late assignments must be submitted within two weeks of the date upon which the assignment was due.
  - US - Late assignments must be submitted within one week of the date upon which the assignment was due.
- Assignments may be revised once and can receive a score of up to 85%.
- Late work may not receive a score of greater than 85%.