

Official Transcript Summary

Student Name: Sam XXXXX
 Address: XXXXXXXXXXXXX
 Phone No: XXXXXXXXXXXXX
 School Name: Homeschool

Report Date: December 18, 2017
 Parent's Names: XXXXXXXXXXXXX
 Birthdate: XXXXXXXXXXXXX
 Expected Graduation Date: June 2018

Course	Provider	Grade	Credits
English I	Hopewell Valley Central High School	*	1
English II	Hopewell Valley Central High School / Princeton Learning Cooperative	*	1
Business Communications	Princeton Learning Cooperative	*	.5
Poetry	Hopewell Valley Central High School / Princeton Learning Cooperative	*	1
Public Speaking	Self-study	in progress	.5
English Composition I (ENG-101)	Mercer County Community College	*	.5
Algebra 1	Online summer program - Educere.com	*	1
Geometry	Hopewell Valley Central High School / Self-study	*	1
Algebra 2	Princeton Learning Cooperative	*	1
Data and Stats	Princeton Learning Cooperative	in progress	1
Biology	Hopewell Valley Central High School	*	1
Chemistry in Community	Hopewell Valley Central High School	*	.5
Physics	Princeton Learning Cooperative	*	.5
World History	Hopewell Valley Central High School	*	1
U.S. History	Hopewell Valley Central High School / Princeton Learning Cooperative	*	1
Psychology	Princeton Learning Cooperative	*	.5
Philosophy	Princeton Learning Cooperative	in progress	1

Greco-Roman History	Princeton Learning Cooperative	in progress	.5
Studies of Race Relations	Self-study	*	.5
United States History Since 1865 (HIS-106)	Mercer County Community College	in progress	1
Spanish I	Hopewell Valley Central High School	*	1
Spanish II and Culture	Princeton Learning Cooperative	*	1
Art for the People	Princeton Learning Cooperative / Self-study	in progress	1
Music Production	Self-study	*	1
Business	Princeton Learning Cooperative / Self-study	*	1
Intro to Business (BUS-101)	Mercer County Community College	*	1
Music Business Internship	Self-study	in progress	1
Horticulture	Princeton Learning Cooperative / Self-study	in progress	1
Basic Automotive Service	Hopewell Valley Central High School	*	.5
Personal Fitness	Princeton Learning Cooperative / Self-study	*	1
Personal Development	Princeton Learning Cooperative / Self-study	*	1
Leadership	Princeton Learning Cooperative / Self-study	*	1
	GPA and credits based on	3.13	21
	Total Credits		27.5

*Grades have been redacted

Authorized Signature: _____

Name/Title: _____

Date: _____

Course Information

Background: Sam XXXXX began his high school career at Hopewell Valley Central High School, Hopewell, NJ; He attended HVCHS for 9th and over half of 10th grade. In the spring of 10th grade, Sam decided to homeschool, enrolling at Princeton Learning Cooperative. Sam continued at PLC for both 11th and 12th grades.

During his high school career, Sam XXXXX took courses from the following institutions:

- Hopewell Valley Central High School, Hopewell, NJ—*an official transcript has been ordered, to be mailed directly from the high school.*
- Mercer County Community College, West Windsor, NJ—*an official transcript has been ordered, to be mailed directly from the college.*
- Princeton Learning Cooperative, Princeton, NJ—a non-profit learning center that works with youth to create their own educational plan and offers classes and other activities to support student learning. Classes meet weekly, usually for one hour, and are based on ability and interest rather than age. Students are encouraged to extend their study of the topic outside of class. Classes are taught by PLC staff, community volunteers and Princeton University students. No grades or credits are awarded.

Grades and credits To support calculation of a GPA, credits listed on this summary transcript indicate a full year of study (1) or a fractional year of study (0.5) and do not reflect the credits granted by the particular educational institutions which provided the courses of study.

The listing of courses below provides a narrative description and evaluation statement for each self-study and Princeton Learning Cooperative course.

English II: (Hopewell Valley Central High School/Princeton Learning Cooperative)

During my sophomore year at Hopewell Valley Central High School, prior to becoming a homeschooler, I read and studied *Catcher in the Rye*, *Julius Caesar*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and Emerson's *Self-Reliance*. In my free time, I enjoy reading books that open my mind to new ideas that interest me. I have read *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah, *Make Your Brain Smarter* by Sandra Bond Chapman, *A Mind for Numbers* by Barbara Oakley and *Meditations* by Marcus Aurelius. At Princeton Learning Cooperative (PLC), I took a course called Writing with Purpose, in which we practiced writing for particular purposes that we personally chose. I wanted to study the history of Hip Hop culture, so I read *Can't Stop Won't Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Generation* by Jeff Chang as my primary source and spent time writing a research paper on the topic. I also wrote an essay on my educational journey to be displayed on the PLC website. Additionally, I worked with a writing tutor at PLC, who taught me grammar and precision in my writing. Finally, I attended a weekly Writers' Workshop where I shared my writing with peers and received and gave feedback.

Evaluation: I saw a lot of improvement in my essay writing skills through practice and revisions. When I started discovering books that interested me, I found that I really enjoyed the challenge of more difficult texts. The subject matter held my interest through difficult passages, and I completed texts that I didn't see myself reading before.

Business Communications: (Princeton Learning Cooperative)

I took a Business Writing course at Princeton Learning Cooperative for a year. In this class, I read *Who Moved My Cheese?* by Spencer Johnson, *Writing that Works* by Joel Raphaelson, and excerpts from *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk Jr. Under the guidance of my teacher, I wrote casual and formal business emails, a skill that I carried into my own deejaying business, in which I emailed clients and networked with musicians. This professional approach to writing was supported by a writing tutor I worked with at PLC. Also in my Business Writing class, I created advertisement flyers, logos, a cover letter, a resume, and a website. Additionally, we learned how to deliver a business presentation. Lastly, my final project was a full business plan, in which I had to consider short and long-term plans, financial and marketing strategies, networking, and resources. I chose to focus on my deejay business for this project.

Evaluation: The parts of the class that I learned the most from were writing business emails and letters to imagined people and businesses, as well as creating my own business plan for my deejay business. Also, I gained more confidence in my writing skills, especially when writing emails. I really enjoyed learning the basics of marketing and creating my own marketing strategies.

Poetry: (Hopewell Valley Central High School/Princeton Learning Cooperative)

Prior to coming to Princeton Learning Cooperative, I completed a research project on transcendental poetry at Hopewell Valley Central High School. Since my time at Hopewell, I have been attending a class called The Spoken Word at Princeton Learning Cooperative for the duration of last school year (2016/2017) and the current year. In this class, we read new poems every week from classic Romantics to modern hip hop lyricists. I particularly enjoy the works of Kendrick Lamar, J. Cole, and the classic poet William Blake. Additionally, we regularly write poetry of our own in class. I have discovered that I like to write positive poetry, and that I focus on big themes, such as human behavior. I also have experimented with songwriting by writing and producing a rap song at a musical recording program at Woodward Camp.

Evaluation: I really enjoyed interpreting the possible meaning and story behind the poems through discussion. While taking the class I got better at analyzing each piece. An area that needed improvement that I spent time on was developing my personal style of writing.

Public Speaking: (Self-study)

Last year, I began seeking public speaking opportunities. At first I found opportunities at Princeton Learning Cooperative (PLC) to speak in front of peers and visitors. This year, I presented a video and led a discussion on a social issue at our community meeting, and I plan to present an exhibition at the end of the year. In my role as PLC ambassador, I have spoken at open houses and publicly thanked volunteers at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. I began speaking at events outside of PLC, as well. Last spring, I spoke on Links Incorporated, a panel for young entrepreneurs, about my experience as a self-employed deejay. This fall, I was invited by the co-founder of PLC, Joel Hammon, to speak at the Hopewell Municipal Alliance meeting about my experiences with self-directed education. Recently, I have presented the mission and purpose of the Princeton Family YMCA Teen Leadership Summit before fortune 500 companies at our advisory breakfast.

Evaluation: I was most interested in developing confidence in oral communication and becoming

more fluent and articulate. One of my strengths was creating a vivid story to get my message across while keeping my audience engaged. I was challenged by speaking at a slower pace so my mind and listeners can keep up. I have seen improvement in this area, and wish to continue to use what I have learned. Later this spring, I will speak on the PLC teen panel, Living and Learning Without School.

Geometry: (Hopewell Valley Central High School/Self-study)

I started taking geometry at Hopewell Valley Central High School my sophomore year. Later, in the transition of becoming a homeschooler (2015/2016), I took geometry through a private tutor, a certified math instructor in the public school system. I learned proofing, the pythagorean theorem, congruences, basic trigonometry, etc. We did traditional textbook work on a biweekly basis. I completed the course in the summer of 2016 with my tutor.

Evaluation: I saw a lot of improvement in the use of formulas. I was challenged by memorizing the theorems, which I was able to do over time. I was most interested in learning practical ways to use geometry in my life.

Algebra 2 (Princeton Learning Cooperative)

Two years ago, I began taking Algebra II at PLC with a tutor, a Princeton University student, that the organization provided. We worked through the Prentice Hall Mathematics Algebra II textbook. In the sessions, we covered concepts such as, complex numbers, parabolas, radical functions, linear systems and completing the square. I met with the tutor once a week, and completed work between sessions.

Evaluation: I enjoyed learning about polynomials and using the quadratic formula. I spent extra time on factoring and eventually was able to complete these problems easily. Overall, I now feel comfortable with algebraic problems.

Data and Stats (Princeton Learning Cooperative)

I attended the weekly PLC Statistics class. We studied the major concepts, logic, and issues in statistical reasoning using statistical tools to collect, analyze, and draw conclusions from data. Three broad conceptual themes were explored: exploring data--observing patterns and departures from patterns, planning studies--deciding what and how to measure, and anticipating patterns--producing models using probability and simulation. I worked with classmates on team-based statistics projects, including measuring fun-size m&m packs, planning and implementing a small survey of music genre interests, running an experiment to investigate properties of a random variable, and analyzing the results of a survey of teen and parent program satisfaction.

Evaluation: I got the most out of this class while creating my own experiments and surveys. I enjoyed looking at statistics and graphical interpretations for the purpose of analyzing whether they are effective, clear, and correct. For the most part, I learned a lot about the use of Excel for statistics.

Physics (Princeton Learning Cooperative)

I attended the weekly PLC Physics Studio class, where we explored the phenomena and concepts of introductory physics through demonstrations, hands-on challenges, class discussions, online videos, and the occasional lecture. Physics concepts explored included buoyancy, acceleration due to gravity, potential energy, momentum, friction, elasticity, projectile motion, pendular motion, torque, simple

machines, air resistance, surface tension, magnetism, and heat transfer. In addition, we discussed bigger-picture and modern physics ideas like the Higgs boson, cosmic background radiation, and the expansion of the universe. I participated in a field trip to Princeton Plasma Physics lab

Evaluation: I enjoyed learning about the theories that underlie how things work. The hands-on demonstrations and labs helped me better understand the concepts.

U.S. History (Hopewell Valley Central High School/Princeton Learning Cooperative)

I studied United States history first in my sophomore year at Hopewell Valley Central High School. I studied the revolutionary war, the formation of states, the branches of government, and the Constitution. I also completed a project on obscure state laws. When I left Hopewell in the spring of my sophomore year, I joined Princeton Learning Cooperative and took the US History class offered there. This class followed the history from Reconstruction through the end of the WWII. In particular, we studied the history of social movements and various groups inside the United States, how larger global issues impacted US history and the role that technology and geography played. I completed and presented a project on the study of tenements and ethnic neighborhoods during the 1920s. We used the text, *Give Me Liberty: An American History* by Eric Foner.

Evaluation: I really enjoyed learning about the Age of Reconstruction. I got the most out of the class when creating presentations on the important moments of American history. I learned a lot of interesting information from my research on tenements and ethnic neighborhoods, and I think I organized the information well. The presentation went fairly well. The content was good, but I think my speech was somewhat rushed.

Psychology (Princeton Learning Cooperative)

At Princeton Learning Cooperative, I took Discovering Psychology in the 2016/17 school year. In the class we had discussions, multiple group projects, and watched and discussed TED talks and other videos. We learned about different branches of psychology such as social, clinical, and criminal. We also covered pioneers of modern psychology such as Sigmund Freud, Jung, and Beck, and discussed famous experiments, specific mental disorders, and theories, such as color theory.

Evaluation: I was most interested in learning about the major contributors to psychology and their theories. I also enjoyed learning about the ethics behind the field. I contributed a lot to the class discussions because of the prior outside knowledge that I researched during my free time.

Philosophy (Princeton Learning Cooperative)

This year I decided that I would take a Philosophy class at Princeton Learning Cooperative. We used the book *Sophie's World* by Jostein Gaarder as a guide to move through the history of philosophy. We went from Plato to John Locke to Albert Camus and beyond. I learned that there are many practical applications of philosophy in my life. For example, Stoicism claims that sometimes bad things are bound to happen no matter how much you try to stop it. I have also studied this school of thought in *Meditations* by Marcus Aurelius, which I read on my own time. Additionally, I have learned more about the intersection of history and philosophy in a book I read called, *Lessons in History* by Will Durant.

Evaluation: I really enjoyed discussing thoughts on the different philosophies with my classmates. I was most interested in taking the philosophies of the others and adding them to my own to

enhance my perception of the universe. For example, I find the worldview of Stoicism useful to keep in mind throughout the day. It makes it easier to stay level-headed through stressful situations. During the class I started to find out how truly awe-inspiring the world is, as well as how much I have yet to experience and learn.

Greco-Roman History (Princeton Learning Cooperative)

In Greco-Roman History at PLC I learned the history of the Greeks and the Romans through presentations done by the instructor. We started with the Minoans and the Mycenaeans, moved to the Persian War, and finished with the founding of Rome, as well as the building of Hadrian Wall. The class went into much detail on the war strategies, culture, garments, and philosophies of that time.

Evaluation: I am most interested in learning about the philosophies, ideals, and beliefs of the Greeks and Romans. I also really enjoy studying the culture, way of life, and war tactics of the Greeks and Romans.

Studies of Race Relations (Self-Study)

Recently, I have discovered an interest in race relations and the history of Black Americans. I have been an active member of Jack & Jill of America, Inc. since 2004 which planted the seed. My interest started after attending the lecture, "Reading Reality: Developing Racial Literacy" at the Princeton Public Library in November 2017. Since then, my enthusiasm for the history of Black America has grown by attending more related workshops within Jack & Jill, watching documentaries such as *A History Of Black Achievement In America*, and reading works such as *The Mis-Education of the Negro* by Carter G. Woodson.

Evaluation: I spent most of my time learning about the history of Black Americans themselves and their individual contributions to society. I also enjoyed taking part of making Black history through my work with Jack & Jill. I learned the most from studying Black Achievement. It has given me a new sense of appreciation for Black Americans.

Spanish II and Culture (Princeton Learning Cooperative)

In 2016/2017 school year, I had a Spanish II tutor at PLC. For this class I watched Spanish TV, translated songs, read Spanish articles, memorized essential vocabulary, learned verb conjugations, and practiced conversations with my teacher. In the fall of 2017, I took a Spanish class at PLC with other students to review and improve my skills.

Evaluation: There were parts of learning Spanish that came more easily to me than others. An area that needed improvement, one that I spent more time on was verb conjugation and memorizing the different tenses. I most enjoyed practicing conversations, and one of my strengths was quick memorization of vocabulary.

Art for the People (Princeton Learning Cooperative)

I have an interest in art that is highly accessible to the public, particularly graffiti and film. I like that these art forms are both accessible and influential to the average person. I have studied different styles of graffiti, photographed pieces and studied the history of it. Two films that I found quite interesting were

Exit Through the Gift Shop (Banksy, 2010) and *Style Wars* (Silver 1983). Additionally, I have contributed to an approved multi-person art piece on a table at Princeton Learning Cooperative. My interest in film is both in filmmaking and film appreciation. At Princeton Learning Cooperative this year, I attended both a film analysis class and a filmmaking club. A sampling of films from our Film Analysis class is as follows: Russian film, *The Return* (Zvyagintsev, 2006); *2001: A Space Odyssey* (Kubrick, 1968); Chinese film, *In the Mood for Love* (Kar-Wei, 2000); *Die Hard* (McTiernan, 1988) as an example of classic Hollywood; German film, *The Counterfeiters* (Ruzowitsky, 2008), and others. Our filmmaking club has completed 2 short film projects, and we are currently working on claymation. In the spring semester, I will teach a class, Music Appreciation and Analysis, at Princeton Learning Cooperative. For each class I plan to ask the attendee to bring a song related to a topic of my choice. Then, we will listen to them, discuss what we like or don't like and break down the different components of the song.

Evaluation: Graffiti-styled art is a creative outlet for me. I really enjoyed creating my own graffiti pieces in my garage and developing a personal artistic style. My favorite part of the Film Analysis class was getting to see how the score of the film affects the scene and evokes emotions. I look forward to learning about the musical interests of my classmates in the Music Appreciation and Analysis class.

Music Production (Self-study)

I have a strong interest in music production. I took Music Production 101 at Scratch DJ Academy NYC in 2014. I wrote the lyrics for and produced my first full song in 2016 at Camp WoodWard. At the camp I learned about music production and music recording. I also self-studied music production through Pro Tools software, and an online course from Creative Live, entitled, *Mixing Electronic Music in Ableton Live*. I self-studied piano from 2016-present. I learned and practiced several basic songs, such as "All of Me" by John Legend and "Stay with Me" by Sam Smith. Currently, at Princeton Learning Cooperative, I am using what I have learned to tutor a peer on Ableton.

Evaluation: My interest and my strength in this area is in actually producing songs. Although, I also took interest in learning music recording. An area I found more challenging was writing lyrics, though I didn't shy from this.

Business (Princeton Learning Cooperative/Self-study)

My interest in business began when I started my personal DJ business in 2013. I have played for various organizations, schools, parties and events, such as, Holy Trinity Interparochial School, Jack & Jill, and The Links Incorporated. Since then, my passion for business took off. I have created a YouTube channel to bring Lo-Fi Hip-Hop to the larger music scene and aid in the growth of music producers within the genre. I also interviewed business owners, executives, and venture capitalists to discuss how they got to where they are, what or who helped them succeed, what their normal work day looks like, and what inspires them to keep developing and progressing in their careers. In addition to that, in April of 2017, I spoke on a young entrepreneurs panel organized by The Links Incorporated, to give other teens a chance to ask me the same questions about my business.

Evaluation: I gained tremendous experience out of running my DJ business and YouTube channel, and I have taken it very seriously. I really enjoyed interviewing people with successful business careers. An area that I spent some time improving was marketing my DJ business. I discovered that one of my strengths was using minimal resources to develop my business.

Music Business Internship (Self-study)

This fall I started an internship at Legacy Arts International with founder Cristina Altamura, pianist and impresario. Legacy Arts International is a Princeton, NJ, based organization made up of a community of musical artists who share resources, perform together and organize education programs. At the internship I learned to use Excel spreadsheets and Eventbrite. I wrote professional emails, managed their social media, planned events, made contact lists, worked at their events, created an introductory video, and more. I got to see how they run their business first-hand, so I can see what needs to happen to create a successful business.

Evaluation: I really enjoyed learning the ins and outs of a business involving multiple people. I got the most experience out setting up events and using the programs like Excel and Eventbrite. I am proud that I could be consistently relied upon for these essential functions of their business.

Horticulture (Princeton Learning Cooperative/Self-study)

In March 2017, I took part in Princeton Learning Cooperative's Gardening Ecology class and continued taking it this year. In the class, we tested the soil, learned about the basics of gardening and plants, built raised beds, made plans for the garden, planted various vegetables and fruits, and learned about sustainability. On September 24, 2017, I volunteered with OASIS and ISLES organizations to clean, pull weeds and fix the raised beds at the Grant and Washington elementary schools in Trenton, New Jersey. Also, with Princeton Learning Cooperative, I twice visited the Rutgers University Plant Biology Research Center for an inside tour and Q&A. On the first visit, we toured the labs, and on the second visit, we toured their cranberry farm.

Evaluation: I thoroughly enjoyed getting outside and working in the gardens. I learned quite a lot about plants, sustainability, and how to maintain a healthy garden. The organization of the garden and the delegation of work was more involved than I realized at first, and I enjoyed working to figure that out.

Personal Fitness (Princeton Learning Cooperative/Self-study)

I put a high value on being physical and healthy. I played defense on the Flemington Bears hockey team during my freshman and sophomore years. In my sophomore year, while I was attending Hopewell Valley Central High school, I took an outward bound course in which we practiced rope courses and team building activities. At Princeton Learning Cooperative, I went on several hiking and ice skating trips, as well as rock climbing. In the fall of 2016 until July of 2017, I took crossfit classes 3 times a week at Pennington Crossfit. In August of 2017, I attended PEAC Health and Fitness center in Ewing, NJ. Since September 2017, I have been taking classes at Princeton Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. Additionally, I have run in the Looney Leprechaun 10k at Tyler State Park, PA in March 2017, a Spartan race in Palmerton PA in July 2017, and a 5k in Washington DC in September 2017.

Evaluation: I really enjoyed discovering new methods of keeping my body healthy. I was most interested in building up my strength and endurance. I'm actually really proud of how I've pushed myself to try new things and pushed my body to perform.

Personal Development (Princeton Learning Cooperative/Self-study)

I have had an interest in personal development for as long as I can remember. I've come to realize that I'll never be satisfied with the current way of things. I'm always looking for ways to improve. Princeton

Learning Cooperative offers a class playfully called Be More Awesomer. In the class, we discuss different topics relating to self-improvement, such as, habit formation, optimism, meditation, productivity, physical health, positive mindsets, etc. Additionally, I regularly listen to the Tim Ferriss Podcast on my way to and from Princeton Learning Cooperative. On the podcast, Ferriss brings in a “top performer in their field” and interviews them about habits and pathways that contribute to their success. Then, he writes about the interview in his blog to breakdown how people can use these findings in their everyday lives. I read his blog regularly, as well. In October 2016 I took a 5 week course on Transcendental Meditation at the Princeton Seminary School, and I keep up the practice daily. Also, I have read books on personal development, like *Managing Oneself* by Peter F. Drucker, *The Power of Habit* by Charles Duhigg, and *Make Your Brain Smarter* by Sandra Bond Chapman.

Evaluation: I really enjoyed attending the Be More Awesomer class and learning about ways to improve the quality of my life and others. I have applied many of the practices we learned in class to my daily life. Additionally, the practice of simple daily meditation has become a cornerstone in my mornings and prepares me mentally for whatever the day brings.

Leadership (Princeton Learning Cooperative/Self-study)

Last year, I decided to take part in some of the leadership roles in my communities. In Jack & Jill, I was elected as the executive board journalist in my chapter. In this position, I wrote newsletters about our events and presented them to the group. At PLC, I became an ambassador. As an ambassador, I welcome new members and day visitors into the community, give tours around the space, lead discussions and help plan future events. Additionally, I led discussions in our community as part of my involvement in PLC’s Culture Committee this year and last. I’ve also taught a short course, Music Appreciation, at PLC and I’m planning to do an exhibition at our end of the year activities. Also, this past year, I have completed leadership volunteer work in supervising a youth Robotics team and again with the Princeton YMCA in preparing for the Youth Summit.

Evaluation: Leadership has become something that I am drawn to. I really enjoyed teaching the music class and learning about others musical interests. I like being a positive example to others. I take that role seriously whether I’m presenting to a group or just spending time with the group in the Common room at PLC.

Reading List

This Reading List encompasses the books I have read over the last 4 years. Some of these books were required for classes, but many of them were read voluntarily according to my interests.

Title	Author
The Mis-Education of the Negro	Carter G. Woodson
Sophie's World	Jostein Gaarder
Can't Stop Won't Stop: A History of the Hip-Hop Generation	Jeff Chang
A Mind for Numbers	Barbara Oakley, Ph.D.
Born a Crime	Trevor Noah
Meditations	Marcus Aurelius
Writing that Works	Joel Raphaelson
The Power of Habit	Charles Duhigg
The Lessons in History	Will Durant
Make Your Brain Smarter	Sandra Bond Chapman
Who Moved My Cheese	Spencer Johnson
Catcher in the Rye	J.D. Salinger
Excerpts from Self-Reliance	Ralph Waldo Emerson
Julius Caesar	William Shakespeare
Romeo and Juliet	William Shakespeare
Managing Oneself	Peter F. Drucker
Of Mice and Men	John Steinbeck
To Kill a Mockingbird	Harper Lee