

GUIDELINES PERTAINING TO HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

Honors and Advanced Placement courses expand opportunities for high school students who are highly motivated and academically gifted and who are capable of learning at a faster pace and deeper level. These rigorous courses challenge students to delve into content and to perform above and beyond established standards of academic excellence.

Students in Honors or Advanced Placement courses often received weighted credit. Courses which qualify for weighted credit must show evidence of the following criteria:

- Demonstrates planned differentiation both in what is taught and in how it is taught
- Enables advanced students to work at their own pace and level; avoids unnecessary duplication
- Emphasizes experiences that require analysis, synthesis, and evaluation
- Emphasizes independent assignments, requiring a wide range of readings and multiple resources
- Provides a dominant emphasis on expository forms of writing – logic, patterns of thought, order, and focus
- Refines the skills of critical thinking and problem-solving
- Provides intensive study of selected topics, requiring greater depth and understanding

The following criteria are used to determine student enrollment in advanced courses:

- Motivation (and desire for weighted credit in grades 9-12)
- Past performance (usually not under “B” average)
- Recommendation of teacher(s) and school counselor(s)
- Standardized test scores (usually 90th percentile or above)
- Emotional maturity and stability
- Ability to work independently
- Parental permission

Adopted: October 19, 2023
