

**AP & Honors  
Course  
Information  
& Overview**



## The Purpose of This Presentation:



- To provide information so students can make informed decisions about course selections for next year.
- To outline the benefits of pursuing Advanced Placement (AP), Honors, Dual Enrollment, ROP and Career Technical Education (CTE) course options for students.

# Honors Classes

- Honors courses are taught at a faster pace and cover more material in greater depth than regular college preparatory level classes providing increased rigor to students.
- Honors courses, except for most 9<sup>th</sup> grade courses, carry an extra grade point which can boost a Grade Point Average (GPA).
- Honors level courses best prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP ) Courses.

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# Advanced Placement

- Subjects are studied in greater depth.
  - AP provides students with the opportunity to pursue college work in high school while also preparing for the rigor of college work.
  - Students will build critical thinking skills, essential time management skills and study habits needed for college success.
  - AP courses can give you an edge on your college application. AP courses carry an extra grade point in the GPA.
  - Saves you money on college tuition, you may earn college credit or skip introductory classes.
  - Students are more likely to graduate from college on time.
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- A white thumbs up icon inside an orange circle, located in the bottom-right corner of the slide.

# Rigor vs. Final GPA

- Many colleges and universities are interested in students who take a course load that has academic rigor including AP coursework vs. one that has a 4.0 GPA without any rigorous coursework.
- However, keep in mind for “more selective universities”, such as UC’s, AP coursework is only ONE factor, not the ONLY factor.
- There are many colleges that consider GPA only and do not take rigor into consideration.

# Who Should Take AP Classes?

- Students who are willing to accept the challenge of a rigorous academic curriculum .
- Students should take into consideration their
  - interests
  - motivation
  - strengths and weaknesses
  - other time commitments (sports, community service, work...)

# What can students do to plan the most appropriate course load?

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- Research information about the AP/Honors courses on: <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/course-index-page>
- Contact AP teachers. Ask about:
  - Homework/project time commitments
  - Prerequisite skills to be successful
  - Supports available for students who may need additional assistance
  - Course expectations/requirements
- Review information on the WHS Course of Study which can be found on the WHS website under Academics and attend Discover Days.

# Discovery Days

Students can also attend AP/Honors Discovery Days held during tutorial sessions to get more information.

Current 9th Grade:	already held
Current 10th Grade:	4/12, 4/13, and 4/14
Current 11th Grade:	3/22, 3/23, and 3/25

The Discovery day schedules will be emailed to all families as part of the registration instructions for next year. Students will also get the instructions through a Canvas notification.



# The AP Exam

- Administered on a nationally established schedule. Testing typically occurs during the first two weeks in May.
- Currently, the cost is \$105 per test and students are notified about specific registration dates, fees, etc. in the fall.
- Typically it is a three-hour exam that includes a multiple choice section and either essays or problems.
- It measures reasoning skills and the ability to analyze facts and data, synthesize information, think critically about complex issues, and negotiate competing perspectives.

# Grading Scale for AP Exams

AP Exam Score	Recommendation	College Course Grade Equivalent
5	Extremely well qualified	A+ or A
4	Very well qualified	A-, B+, or B
3	Qualified	B-, C+, or C
2	Possibly qualified	---
1	No recommendation	---

**A 3 or higher can earn credit at a university. Each university has its own AP policy. Check the university website for more information.**

# What Counts?

- Check directly with the college
- Check the College Board website  
[www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy](http://www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy)
  - Type in the name of the institution or the name of the course







## Additional Course Options for Students Dual Enrollment, Career Technical Education & ROP Classes

Tonight we also have a presentation and information on Dual Enrollment Classes, Irvine Valley College classes taught on IUSD high school campuses, the importance of Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes for college and career readiness and Regional Occupation Program (ROP) classes.

These classes provide many benefits which may include:

- Earning college credits as a high school student,
  - Providing an edge on a college application,
  - Helping a student with selecting a college major
  - Preparing a student for the rigors of college
  - Creating an awareness of career opportunities.
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# Thank you!

Teachers and presenters are now available to give an overview of their coursework and answer your questions!

