

ARAPAHOE HIGH SCHOOL



2009-2010

HONORS/ACCELERATED PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR INCOMING 9th GRADE STUDENTS

English 9 Honors
U.S. History 9 Honors
Geometry Honors, Algebra II Honors
Biology
Advanced Business Technology 2

PLEASE REVIEW DETAILS CAREFULLY

It is important to note that if you do not get into an honors class your freshman year, you will still have access to many rigorous classes, including Advanced Placement courses at Arapahoe High School. Since we do not weight honors classes, there is no negative effect on your GPA if you end up in a regular academic course, nor is there any positive effect on your GPA for honors courses. In fact, some students have found the pace of a regular course helps them to be better prepared for higher level courses later in their high school career. If you are placed in a regular course at the beginning of the semester, and are performing at an honors level, it is possible to be moved into an honors course at a later time.

DESCRIPTION OF NINTH GRADE HONORS AND BASIC SKILLS PROGRAMS AT ARAPAHOE HIGH SCHOOL

Classes which are labeled Honors are more rigorous and more demanding than regular courses in terms of both the quality and quantity of work expected. Expectations differ between regular and honors courses.

ENGLISH 9 HONORS

MTWRF Semester 1

Credit: 5 hours per semester

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation, CSAP Advanced Proficient, 1st and 2nd semester grades, Nelson Denny test score

This course is designed for the superior student, who is mature, intellectually motivated and who demonstrates proficiency in reading and writing. In addition to satisfying the objectives of English 9, the course provides each student the opportunity to become more skillful in analytical classroom discussion, critical analysis in written expression, comparative analysis of various literary genre and interpretation of more sophisticated reading material from various world authors.

GEOMETRY HONORS

MTWF or MWRF Semester 1

Credit: 4 hours per semester

Prerequisite: "A" or "90%" in 8th grade algebra, teacher recommendation

This course is essentially the same as GEOMETRY except it takes a more formalized approach to the subject. Formulas are derived and more deductive proofs are performed. Students who are in the honors track are expected to take Calculus their senior year.

ALGEBRA II HONORS

MTWRF Semester 1

Credit: 5 hours per semester

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation from Geometry (Honors OR approved application from an "A" student in GEOMETRY 1 & 2

This course covers the same content as Algebra II with the addition of limits, derivations of formulas, and applications to real life. Students who are in the honors track are expected to take Calculus in their senior year.

ADVANCED BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY 2

MWF or TR Semester 1, 2

Credit: 2 or 3 hours per semester

Prerequisite: Business Technology 1 OR Business Technology 1 Proficiency Exam

Take your business and technology skills to the next level. Prepare yourself for college and the future. You will be presented with real world business situations and develop critical thinking skills to combine your technology abilities and business knowledge to develop a finished product that most efficiently and effectively addresses the needs of the task at hand. If you have a desire to learn how to use your technology skills as a communication tool to help you succeed in all facets of your life, including academically, personally and professionally, then this is the class for you!

BIOLOGY

MWF Semester 1, 2

Credit: 4 hours per semester

Prerequisite: None for 10, 11, 12

9th graders **must pass Math/Science audition test and must maintain an "A" in current science course.**

Using the skills of critical thinking and problem solving, Biology students will understand the concepts of Biology and demonstrate how they apply to everyday life. This class meets three hours a week, plus one hour in laboratory on Tuesday or Thursday each week. There is considerable time spent in laboratory work. This course should be taken by the majority of students for their Science Requirement.

U. S. HISTORY: HONORS

MTWRF Semester 1 & 2 9

Credit: 5 hours per semester

Prerequisite: Audition score of 14.5 or higher, must have an "A" in 8th grade Social Studies, teacher recommendation

This full year course deals with the same topics as U.S History S1 and S2, but will be differentiated by more careful analysis and greater depth in questioning. Students will be required to do more outside reading and will be expected to write considerably more than a student in the regular course.

BASIC SKILLS COURSES

EXPERIMENTAL SCIENCE

MWF Semester 1, 2 9

Credit: 3 hours per semester

Prerequisite: Recommendation of Current Science Teacher

This is a basic skills science course designed for students who have had a difficult time in science. Considerable time will be spent developing skills related to observation, description, experimentation and responsibility. First Semester will cover topics in Physical Science, while 2nd Semester will explore topics in Life Science. The foundations built in this course will foster confidence for success in future science classes.

PRE-ALGEBRA

MWRF Semester 1 9

Credit: 4 hours per semester

Prerequisite: Teacher recommendation

This course is designed for freshmen who have had difficulty, failed, or did not take 8th grade pre-algebra. This class is designed to prepare students for Algebra I. Topics include: order of operations, signed numbers, solving simple equations, and graphing basic functions. **This course does not meet the minimum requirement for CCHE.** Please see CCHE math requirements on page 6 of the Pathfinder.

**ATTENTION 8TH GRADE STUDENTS
WHO ARE INTERESTED IN
GEOMETRY HONORS, ENGLISH 9 HONORS, HISTORY 9 HONORS, BIOLOGY,
AND/OR ADVANCED BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY 2**

Incoming ninth grade students who wish to be placed in English 9 Honors, U.S. History 9 Honors, Geometry Honors, Biology or Advanced Business Technology 2 classes must meet the requirements as established by each department. Please read this entire packet carefully. Details are provided on the requirements for each class.

- For English 9 Honors - All candidates will need to take the audition exam. Please see the criteria for English A 9 Honors. **English 9 Honors and U.S. History Honors auditions will be a reading assessment and will only have to be taken once to apply for both courses.**
- For U.S. History 9 Honors - All candidates will need to take the audition exam. Please see the criteria for US History 9 Honors. **English 9 Honors and U.S. History Honors auditions will be a reading assessment and will only have to be taken once to apply for both courses.**
- For Geometry Honors - All candidates will need to take the audition exam. Please see the criteria for Geometry Honors exam. **Geometry Honors and Biology auditions will be a combined assessment and may qualify you for placement in one or both honors courses.**
- For Algebra II Honors - All candidates will need to take the audition exam if not currently enrolled in Geometry Honors at Arapahoe High School. Please contact Krista Bretz or Michelle Crookham at 303-347-6034 for testing dates.
- For Biology - All candidates will need to take the audition exam. Please see the criteria for Biology. **Geometry Honors and Biology auditions will be a combined assessment and may qualify you for placement in one or both courses.**
- For Advanced Business Technology 2 (ABT2) - All candidates will need to take the audition exam. Please see the criteria for Advanced Business Technology 2 exam.

Audition Exams will be evaluated by Arapahoe High School English, Social Studies, Math, Science and Business teachers to be considered as one of several criteria for placement into the Honors program. Other criteria as stated in the packet include standardized test scores, middle school grades, teacher recommendations and student interest.

Students will receive notification of placement into Honors at Freshman Registration April 6, 2009.

Please contact your middle school counselor if you have questions, or call Arapahoe High School at 303-347-6000 and request the departmental office you are interested in. Teacher names have been provided on the following pages to answer your questions.

Important Dates to Remember:

Freshman Showcase - Monday, March 2, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

Honors Auditions - February 28, March 10, 12, 2009 See times listed below.

Freshman Registration - Monday, April 6, 2009 at 7:00 PM.

Freshman Computer Registration Help Nights - April 14, 2:30-4:30 PM & April 15, 4:00-6:00 PM

Audition Times:

Saturday, February 28, 2009

Language Arts/Social Studies	8:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Math/Science	9:45 AM - 10:45 AM
Non-graphing calculators are permitted, but not provided.	
Advanced Business Technology 2	11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Language Arts/Social Studies	3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
------------------------------	-------------------

Thursday, March 12, 2009

Math/Science	3:30 PM - 4:30 PM
Non-graphing calculators are permitted, but not provided.	
Advanced Business Technology 2	3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Location:

All auditions except Advanced Business Technology 2 will be in W201 - Please enter AHS through the West Entrance. Auditions for Advanced Business Technology 2 will be in rooms S2 and S3.

Detailed Requirements for Admission

English 9 Honors

All students interested in this class **MUST** audition (refer to dates on previous page).

You must meet all 4 of the requirements listed below to qualify for honors placement:

1. Score of 13.5 or better on the audition exam.
 2. A CSAP score of Advanced/Proficient on Writing and Reading from seventh grade.
 3. Verification of a current grade of an A (90%) or better in an eighth grade English class. **Grade must be maintained through Second Semester. Grades for semester 2 will be verified in June to be sure you remain at the advanced level.**
 4. Teacher approval from your current Language Arts teacher based on a scale of 1-5. The approval will consider such criteria as *an honest curiosity about the study of English, consistent and sustained high academic performance and completion of all assignments, superior reading and writing skills, and a sincere interest in learning.*
- **IF** a student's 7th Grade CSAP score does not meet required levels, but the student's eighth grade CSAP score does, then the student's eighth grade CSAP score will usurp the other.
 - **IF** a student does not qualify for admission to English 9 Honors through this process, his/her outstanding performance in a regular English 9 class at AHS could result in placement in honors at a later time. A student entering the honors program at a later time will not be a disadvantage compared to students who participated in honors sooner.

AHS Contact: Language Arts Teachers - Ms. Maura Moritz (mmoritz@lps.k12.co.us) or Ms. Anne Smith (asmith@lps.k12.co.us)

Geometry Honors

All students interested in this class **MUST** audition (refer to dates on previous page).

To register for honors you must meet **ALL 5** of the requirements listed below:

1. Passing score on the math portion of the math-science audition exam.
2. Verification of completing a full year of Algebra with a grade of an A (90%) or better. **Grade must be maintained through Second Semester. Grades for semester 2 will be verified in June to be sure you remain at the advanced level.**
3. A CSAP score of ADVANCED on the CSAP math test.
4. Teacher recommendation from your current math teacher based on a scale of 1 - 5.
5. A desire to take 4 years of math in high school - including calculus.

Students who have earned 70% or higher in 8th grade Algebra and do not qualify for Geometry Honors, can take **regular Geometry**. It is expected that students who receive below 70% in Algebra I, retake Algebra I at the high school level so they will build a solid foundation to reach the Trigonometry and Pre-Calculus level by their senior year.

*Students wishing to take regular Geometry and are presently in Algebra I with a 70% or higher, DO NOT NEED to take the Geometry Honors audition exam. They will be placed in regular Geometry.

AHS Contact: Math Teacher - Ms. Krista Bretz (kbretz@lps.k12.co.us) or Ms. Michelle Crookham (mcrookham@lps.k12.co.us)

US History 9 Honors

All students interested in this class **MUST** audition (refer to dates on previous page).

You must meet all 3 of the requirements listed below to qualify for honors placement:

1. Score of 14.5 or better on the audition exam.
 2. Verification of a semester grade of A in an 8th grade Social Studies class for semesters 1 and 2. **Grade must be maintained through Second Semester. Grades for semester 2 will be verified in June to be sure you remain at the advanced level.**
 3. Teacher approval from your current Social Studies teacher based on a scale of 1-5. The approval will consider such criteria as *an honest curiosity about the study of history, consistent and sustained high academic performance and completion of all assignments, superior reading and writing skills, and a sincere interest in learning.*
- If a student does not qualify for admission to US History 9 Honors through this process, his/her outstanding performance in a regular History 9 class at AHS could result in placement in honors at a later time. A student entering the honors program at a later time will not be a disadvantage compared to students who participated in honors sooner.

AHS Contact: Social Studies Teacher - Ms. Amanda Crosby (acrosby@lps.k12.co.us) or Ms. Stacey Cornils (Scornils@lps.k12.co.us)

Biology

Although it is not really an honors class, Biology is considered the advanced science class for our incoming freshmen. All students interested in this class **MUST** audition (refer to dates on previous page). In order to sign up for Biology at AHS, you must meet all 4 criteria listed below:

1. Passing score on the math-science audition exam - both scores considered.
2. Receive an A (90%) or higher in your 8th grade Science class. **Grade must be maintained through Second Semester. Grades for semester 2 will be verified in June to be sure you remain at the advanced level.**
3. Be concurrently enrolled in a Geometry or Geometry Honors math course your freshman year.
4. Teacher recommendation from your current 8th grade Science teacher based on a scale of 1 -5.

AHS Contact: Science Department Chair - Mr. Jesse Craig (jcraig@lps.k12.co.us)

Advanced Business Technology 2 (formerly Computer Applications I)

Refer to the dates, times and locations on the first page. Reference materials for self study are available on the Business Education page of the AHS website. Business Technology 1 or Advanced Business Technology 2 is a graduation requirement for Arapahoe High School. Incoming 9th graders may take a proficiency exam to pass into Advanced Business Technology 2 in lieu of Business Technology 1 (formerly Intro to Computer Applications). In order to enroll in Advanced Business Technology 2 at AHS you:

1. Demonstrate Proficiency Requirements on the Exam
 - a. 30 words per minute, with 5 or less errors, demonstrating proper technique
 - b. Word: formatting a business letter, line spacing, margins, and footers
 - c. Excel: cell formatting, data entry, formulas, and charting
 - d. PPT: slide formatting, bulleting, graphics, and printing

AHS Contact: Business Department Chairs - Ms. Heather Greenwood (hgreenwood@lps.k12.co.us) or Ms. Caroline Swank (cswank@lps.k12.co.us)



Arapahoe Business & Marketing Department Advanced Business Technology 2 Proficiency Exam

Testing Dates

Saturday, February 28, 2009 11:00 am – 12:30 pm
Located in S2 and S3

Thursday, March 12, 2009 3:30 – 5:00 pm
Located in S2 and S3

Students that demonstrate basic proficiency in “touch typing” and computer applications will be allowed to test out of Business Technology 1 and enroll directly in Advanced Business Technology 2 to complete their graduation requirement. Skills assessed on the proficiency exam are outlined below.

Reference materials for self study are available upon request in the Business Department.

AHS Contact:

Caroline Swank or Heather Greenwood, Department Co-Chairs

(303) 347-6036

Keyboarding Test

- ⇒ Two minute timed tests using Microtype software (3 attempts allowed)
- ⇒ Proficiency requirements: 30 or greater gwam, no more than 5 errors
- ⇒ Required to type using keyboard cover and proper technique

Word

- ⇒ Create folders on the network to manage files
- ⇒ Access electronic documents and folders on the network
- ⇒ Common editing functions (Cut, copy, paste, spell check)
- ⇒ Common formatting functions (fonts, text alignment, margins, horizontal and vertical centering, clip art and picture formatting, page borders, bulleting and numbered list)
- ⇒ Common printing functions (zoom, print preview, print selected pages)
- ⇒ Headers & Footers
- ⇒ Format business letter with the assistance of a format guide that will be provided

PowerPoint

- ⇒ Add and delete slides, change slide order
- ⇒ Change slide layout, slide design, and slide background
- ⇒ Insert, format, and modify text
- ⇒ Insert clip art images
- ⇒ Use drawing toolbar to enhance presentations
- ⇒ Apply transitions and animations to presentations
- ⇒ View and show a slide presentation
- ⇒ Print a presentation (both slides and handout formats)

Excel

- ⇒ Basic worksheet navigation (cell to cell and scroll bars)
- ⇒ Text formatting and alignment
- ⇒ Number formatting (currency, decimals) and date formatting
- ⇒ Changing cell width and height
- ⇒ Insert columns & rows
- ⇒ Create basic mathematical formulas and use autosum formula
- ⇒ Prepare charts
- ⇒ Headers & Footers
- ⇒ Print spreadsheets (set print area, page orientation)