

ARAPAHOE HIGH SCHOOL



2010-2011

HONORS/ACCELERATED/ SWIM WAIVER/BASIC COURSES PLACEMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR INCOMING 9th GRADE STUDENTS

**English 9 Honors
U.S. History 9 Honors
Geometry Honors and Algebra II Honors
Biology
Swimming
Advanced Business Technology 2
Spanish II**

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, ACCELERATED, BASIC AND WAIVER PROGRAMS AT ARAPAHOE HIGH SCHOOL

HONORS CLASSES

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: **9th graders must pass Math/Science audition test and must maintain an "A" (90%) in 8th grade algebra**
-- teacher recommendation.

This course is essentially the same curriculum 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). 9th graders must pass Algebra II Honors audition exam if not taking Geometry Honors at Arapahoe High School.

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.

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.

ACCELERATED COURSES

These courses are typically taken during the sophomore year and are not considered honors. If you qualify for these classes you are skipping a level.

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.

SPANISH II MWF Semester 1, 2

Credit: 3 hours per semester

Prerequisite: Spanish I – S1 and S2

This course is a continuation of the study of Spanish language fundamentals. Speaking, writing, reading and listening comprehension as well as cultural awareness are continued to be practiced.

WAIVER

Passing this waiver test will not give you credits, but it will give you an opportunity to take other electives.

SWIMMING

MWF or TR Semester 1, 2

Credit: 2 or 3 hours per semester

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed to provide instruction in all of the basic strokes. The students will learn the front and back crawl, elementary backstroke, breaststroke, and sidestroke. Correct rhythmic breathing, arm action, and kicking techniques will be emphasized. Basic water safety skills will be presented. Fitness levels will be enhanced as endurance swims will be progressively implemented. Recreational aquatic games, such as water polo, will be introduced. Survival floating and treading water will be taught.

BASIC 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.

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)

Swim Waiver Information

All students wishing to waive the Arapahoe High School swimming requirement **MUST** take the swim waiver test (refer to dates on previous page). Please note the following:

- Only students who will be attending Arapahoe High School beginning August 2010 may take the waiver.
- Passing the waiver will meet the graduation requirement for Arapahoe High School.
- No credit will be given toward the 12 required Physical Education credits.
- Space is limited. Students must pre-sign up by going to the AHS home page at <http://arapahoe.littletonpublicschools.net>.
- Since Arapahoe High School assigns first semester swimming to those freshmen students with the last name starting with **A-M**, only those students with the last name starting with A-M will be able to take the waiver on March 16th or 17th.
- The swim waiver will be given during the school year in November for freshmen students with the last name starting with L-Z.

You must meet all the requirements listed below for the swim waiver:

In order for the student to waive the swimming requirement for graduation, the student must be proficient in all of the following skills:

- 1) Swim 20 lengths (500 yards) continuously using the crawl stroke (freestyle), breaststroke, sidestroke, elementary back stroke or combination of strokes.
- 2) Swim one length (25 yards) using arms only.
- 3) Swim one length (25 yards) using legs only.
- 4) Jump or dive into deep water and tread water for 5 minutes- then demonstrate proper survival floating techniques for 10 minutes. This will require 15 minutes of continuous survival skills in deep water without stopping or touching the wall.

5) Demonstrate stroke proficiency in three of the four of the following strokes by swimming one length of the pool using each stroke:

- a) Crawl Stroke with Flutter Kick
- b) Breaststroke with Whip Kick
- c) Sidestroke with Scissor Kick
- d) Elementary Back Stroke with Whip Kick

Students should bring a towel and goggles.

AHS Contact: Ms. Jennifer Leyden (jleyden@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, will be placed in 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)

Algebra II Honors

All students will need to take the math audition exam if not currently enrolled in Geometry Honors at Arapahoe High School.

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)

Spanish II

All students interested in this class must meet all 3 requirements listed below to qualify for placement into Spanish II:

1. A score of 80% or higher on the district common assessment **given by the 8th grade teachers in LPS** or on Monday, March 8th from 3:30-4:30 in Room N13 for **Non-LPS students**.
2. Teacher approval from your current Spanish 1 teacher based on a scale of 1-5. The approval will consider such criteria as consistent and sustained high academic performance, completion of assignments, responsibility and superior Spanish communication skills.
3. A desire to take 4 years of Spanish in high school, including AP Spanish language.

- *All students are strongly recommended to have a CSAP score of Advanced/Proficient on Writing and Reading from eighth grade.*

AHS Contacts: Second Year Spanish Teachers: Patty Melin pmelin@lps.k12.co.us or (303) 347-6005 and Barb Kitch at bkitch@lps.k12.co.us or (303)347-6005



Arapahoe Business & Marketing Department Advanced Business Technology 2 Proficiency Exam

Testing Dates

Tuesday, March 9, 2010 3:30 – 5:00 pm
Located in S2 and S3

Thursday, March 11, 2010 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)