

Counselor: _____ Ms. Adame _____ Mr. Calderon _____ Mrs. Churchman _____ Ms. Kwon _____ Mrs. Martinez
_____ Mr. San Miguel _____ Ms. Stephens _____ Mrs. Tipton

Class of 2029 REQUEST FOR AP/HONORS/DE COURSE (S)

Due: **February 27, 2026** - Turn in completed request forms to Counseling Office

Name _____

UID _____

PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

SOCIAL STUDIES:

☐

European History AP (DE)

MATHEMATICS:

☐

Pre Calculus (DE)

Current Teacher Recommendations (Only for the subject(s) requested)

English Teacher: _____

_____ I recommend student for European History (DE)

_____ I would like to discuss this further

Signature of Teacher _____

Mathematics Teacher: _____

_____ I recommend student for Math Analysis Honors

_____ I would like to discuss this further

Signature of Teacher _____



Turn Over

Parent/Student Contract

Advanced Placement and Honors courses are taught at an accelerated pace and at advanced levels of instruction. The text, writing, and format of the courses are all at a higher level and require approximately 30% more homework and study time than a regular College Preparatory class. Exemplary attendance is critical in these courses because class work cannot be duplicated outside of the classroom. Adherence to Independence High School's Academic Honesty Policy is required.

Having read the above requirements and expectations, STUDENT, **please initial:**

- ☐ I agree to the accelerated pace and rigorous curriculum of the AP/Honors course.
- ☐ I agree to do the extra outside class work and/or extra projects as assigned.
- ☐ I agree to complete the summer assignment before the course begins – summer work will be posted on the IHS website. See **Student Instructions and Tips**.
- ☐ I am prepared to make a commitment to stay in the course for the entire year.
- ☐ I have read and agree to the terms of the IHS Academic Honesty Policy as delineated on the reverse side of this form.
- ☐ I must maintain a 'C' or better to stay in any AP/Honors classes.
- ☐ **If I drop an AP/HP class, I will be placed in a CP class.**

Student Signature _____

Having read the above requirements and expectations, PARENT, **please initial:**

- ☐ I have reviewed my student's complete application, including the expectations outlined above that my student agreed to, as well as the short answer responses.
- ☐ I approve of the number of AP/Honors classes my student is planning to take.
- ☐ I understand that EACH AP/Honors class my student is planning to take will require 4-5 hours of outside reading/studying/homework.
- ☐ **Dual Enrollment classes:** If my student is receiving an unsatisfactory grade or drops this class, I will make sure they drop before the "Withdrawal" date so the college transcript will not be negatively affected.
- ☐ **Dual Enrollment classes:** Because these courses are offered in partnership with a college and are taught at the college level, instructors are required to follow postsecondary policies regarding student privacy and communication. I understand that teachers are not permitted to communicate directly with parents or guardians about student performance, assignments, or progress.

Parent Signature _____

Parent E-mail _____

Short Answer and Transcript

❖ Please type your response to the prompt below on a separate sheet and attach it to this application. Please use a 12 point font and write a minimum of 1 page.

❖ Attach an Unofficial transcript to your completed application.

○ **Unofficial Transcript** - Students have access to print their own unofficial transcripts through StudentVue.

Please refer to these steps:

- Open StudentVue on a DESKTOP COMPUTER
- From the menu on the left, select COURSE HISTORY
- Next to Graduation Status, click on the blue box that says UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT
- Your transcript will download on the computer, open the PDF and PRINT

Advanced Placement and Honors courses require an additional 30% more reading, studying, and homework outside of class time than a regular College Preparatory class. Students can expect to spend 4-5 hours a week for EACH Advanced Placement or Honors course in which they are enrolled.

With this in mind, write an essay that addresses the following:

- The reasons you are requesting to enroll in advanced courses. Reference all classes you are requesting.
- Your plan to balance increased workload and extracurricular activities and commitments.
- The feeling of being overwhelmed when enrolled in advanced coursework is common. What will you do to overcome this challenge?

Turn in the completed request forms to the Counseling office by February 27, 2026.

Student Instructions and Tips

Please read carefully and keep for your records.

Summer Work - Not all AP/Honors courses require summer work, however it is YOUR responsibility to check to see if there is summer work assigned for the class(es) you signed up for. Summer work is expected to be done by the first day of school.

All Summer Work is posted on the INDEPENDENCE WEBSITE.

- Go to independence.kernhigh.org
- From the COUNSELING tab, go to SUMMER WORK
- Look for the class(es) you signed up for.

Academic Success - Please refer to the strategies on the *back of this page*. If there are any strategies you are not already using, start practicing now! Being an AP/Honors student requires discipline, determination and even strategy...use these tips to help you be your best.

Mandatory AP Meetings - Some AP/Honors teachers hold mandatory meetings for students who signed up for their class for the following year. These meetings are usually held in May in the teacher's classroom and the details are announced in the bulletin.

How To Be Academically Successful

1. **Be in school, on time, every day.** When you miss school, you miss lectures, notes, class discussions, assignments, quizzes, tests. It does not matter how good you are about making up your work, you can never make up all you miss.
2. **Learn how to adapt to different teachers.** In the classroom, the teachers are in charge and make the rules. Part of your education is to learn to adapt to different set of rules, personalities, and teaching styles.
3. **Be prepared for each class.** To be prepared, you need to have books, notebooks, paper, pencils, etc. You also need to have completed homework assignments. When you have done your homework, you get more out of the class.
4. **Take notes to help you pay attention.** You can think much faster than anyone can talk. This is one of the reasons that your mind sometimes wanders when you are listening in class. When you take notes, however, your mind has something additional to do, and you do not have time to think about anything else.
5. **Participate in class.** Participating in class makes it more interesting and helps keep your mind focused. Ask and answer questions, and get involved in class discussions.
6. **Be a good group member.** Knowing how to work well in a group is very important. Whenever you are involved in a group project, 1) do your share of the work and do it well, 2) try to be open to new ideas, and 3) support the other members of the group.
7. **Know how to read a textbook.** Textbook authors have already done a lot of work for you. They have inserted boldface subtitles that tell you exactly what you are going to be reading about. It is important to remember to scan, read, and then review the information.
8. **Involve your parents.** When your parents ask what you did in school, tell them. Your parents will like the fact that you are talking to them about what is going on in school.
9. **Knowing your learning style:** We all learn differently. Some learn best by seeing the material (visual learners), and some learn best by hearing the information (auditory learners). Some learn best by doing (kinesthetic learners), and some learn best through the use of technology. Think about how you learn, and adjust how you study accordingly.
10. **Take responsibility for your grades.** If you get a good grade on a test or paper, be proud of your accomplishment. If you receive a poor grade, do not make excuses. Take responsibility for your grade, and figure out how you can do better next time.