

Routing: High School Principals Associate Principals Area Superintendents	SITE OPERATIONS BULLETIN School Year 2025-2026	BULLETIN NUMBER: 95 DATE: August 6, 2025 DUE DATE: September 1, 2025
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Title: DISTRICT EXPECTATIONS FOR HONORS COURSES

Issuing Department: Equity, Access and Opportunity - Advanced Studies

Reference: None

Summary: Identify site staff to confirm honors requirements are met.

Brief Explanation:

This bulletin provides updated procedures regarding Honors-level course requirements, examinations, and projects—link to all Honors courses, course codes, and end-of-course requirements: <https://bit.ly/SDUSDhonors>.

All honors-level courses must satisfy the following University of California ‘a-g’ requirements:

1. Honors-level courses are specialized, advanced courses designed for 10th-, 11th- or 12th-graders who have already completed foundation work in the subject area. High school courses offered at the grade 9 level that schools might locally designate as “honors” are not eligible for the UC honors designation.
2. Courses must have established prerequisites, as appropriate to the discipline.
3. Honors-level courses must have a comprehensive final examination or a substantive, culminating project. The purpose of the final exam/project is for students to exhibit depth of knowledge and sustained mastery of subject material.
4. In general, it is highly recommended [but not required] high school courses being considered for the UC honors designation will have a non-honors equivalent course offered at the same frequency (e.g., annually, every other year, etc.), in the same subject area, and at the same grade level.

Site Honors Procedure:

1. Weighted credit will only be awarded to honors students who complete the comprehensive final exam or culminating project. The student’s final exam or culminating project grade should be entered into PowerSchool along with all course grades.

2. 20 days prior to the end of the course term, teachers will ensure that all students will complete the required comprehensive final exam or culminating project.
3. If a student is not on track to complete the required comprehensive final exam or culminating project, then they must notify the site tech and/or counselor to update the course to a non-weighted equivalent course.
4. Similarly, if a student takes the comprehensive final exam or culminating project, but is NOT enrolled in the Honors equivalent course, they shall NOT receive weighted credit.
5. Once grades are stored, there will be no course changes.

Weighted Course Grading Scale:

Grade earned in weighted course:	Grade points earned:
A	5
B	4
C	3
D	1
F	0

2025-2026 Honors Timeline and Important Dates:

August 30, 2025	All honors educators and site coordinators will be sent requirements
September 30, 2025	Sites coordinators confirm honors level course requirements
December 19, 2025	Q2 course deadline to complete exam/project for honors credit
January 2026	All honors coordinators will receive requirement reminder email
February 12, 2026	Q3 deadline to confirm student will complete requirements or change course code
May 1, 2026	Q4 deadline to confirm student will complete requirements or change course code
May 28, 2026	S2, Q4 course deadline to complete exam/project for honors credit

For more information about honors courses and assessments, please contact:

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