

The Colony High School Honors/AP Policy

The Honors/AP Program at The Colony High School is a program that allows students to challenge themselves by taking rigorous, college-level courses while they are still in high school. Students taking Honors/AP courses not only improve their chances of getting into college by taking a rigorous course of study, but they also are better prepared for college work. The Colony High School offers a variety of Honors/AP courses for students who wish to challenge themselves in preparation for college.

Students interested in taking an Honors/AP course should understand and be willing to abide by the following statements:

- ❖ I understand the rigor, difficulty, and pace associated with Honors/AP courses. I am committed to the time commitments and work ethic needed to take an advanced course of study. I also understand that Honors/AP courses may require completion of a summer reading assignment or attendance at required tutorial sessions.
- ❖ I have read the descriptions of the Honors/AP courses I am requesting enrollment in and understand the workload associated with each course. I have also considered my extra-curricular activities, and other commitments to ensure that I am registered for an appropriate number of Honors/AP courses for me. [Course Descriptions can be found here.](#)
- ❖ I am committed to my Honors/AP courses for the duration of each class. I understand that I will not be removed from an Honors/AP course for at least 3 weeks, at which time I may schedule a meeting with my parents, teacher, counselor, and principal to discuss the possibility of removal from an Honors/AP course. The next and final opportunity to level change will be at the 9-week mark. I understand that a request for removal does not guarantee that I may leave an Honors/AP course.
- ❖ I have reviewed and discussed with my parents/guardians the “Are Honors/AP Classes Right for You?” survey attached. I have consulted with my parents/guardians, counselor, and/or teachers to ensure that I am registered for an appropriate number of Honors/AP courses for me.
- ❖ **AP ONLY:** I understand that by signing up for an AP course, I am **expected** to take the corresponding AP exam in May. AP Exams will carry a cost that must be paid through the TCHS Testing Department.

Are Honors/AP Courses Right for You?

To help you determine whether Honors/AP courses are right for you, consider the following questions for each course you wish to register:

1. Do you plan on attending a college or university after graduation?
2. Do you maintain at least an average of 85 or better in your regular courses?
3. Are you willing to challenge yourself, even if it means you may have lower grades than you are used to?
4. Do you enjoy reading without being told to do so?
5. Do you turn in all assignments on time?
6. Do you take constructive criticism well?

7. Are you willing to devote time every night to studying and working on class specific skills to be successful, including working beyond assigned homework?
8. Do you have an excellent attendance record and take initiative to ask for make-up work when absent?
9. Are you able to work on multiple assignments at one time for each class?
10. Do you manage your time well between your academic and other responsibilities?
11. Do you manage your time well while working on long-term assignments, projects, and essays so you are not completing the work the night before they are due?
12. Will you be able to persevere in an Honors/AP course until you find success, even if the course seems too challenging or difficult?
13. Do you understand that spending time and effort on an assignment does not guarantee a high grade?
14. Are you willing to accept that Honors/AP style tests and test questions can be very broad and abstract in nature and that you cannot always study for these tests in the same way that you can prepare for a test in a regular class, and that review materials may not mirror actual test questions?

If there are more 'yes' responses than 'no' responses, Honors/AP courses may be the right choice for you. Please discuss with your parent/guardian, teachers, and/or counselor to help make the best decision for you. Honors/AP courses are challenging, but with the right level of commitment and hard work, you can be successful!