

UPPER PERKIOMEN H.S.
WELCOMES THE PARENTS OF THE CLASS OF 2025

GOOD
LUCK!



Administration

- Dr. Carpenter – Principal
- Mr. Amsler – Assistant Principal (10 & 11)
- Mr. Miller – Assistant Principal (9 & 12)
- Mr. McFadden – School Resource Officer
- Mr. Kurzweg – Athletic Director

Counselors

- Mrs. Traub (A-G)
- Mr. Gunning (H-N)
- Ms. LeGendre (O-Z)
- Ms. Kelly (Support Counselor)
- Mr. Arifaj (UPMS)
- Mrs. Schlatterer (UPMS)

Plan for the Evening

- Scheduling process
- UPHS course options
- Graduation requirements

Scheduling - Timeline

- 8th Grade Parent Night - 2/10/21
- Team Presentations - 2/11/21
 - Program of Studies
- Course Selection Letters - Week of 2/22
- Skylert will be sent by Mrs. Siegfried - 2/22
- Select in Skyward - 3/15 & 3/16

Course Selection

- Teacher recommendations based upon academic performance (course grades, placement tests, PSSA)
- MS Guidance Counselors will meet with students
- Parents review course selection letters - Week of 2/22
- Online selection process – 3/15 & 3/16

Link Crew

- Visitations
- Orientation - August (TBD)
- Transition program that welcomes freshmen and makes them feel comfortable throughout the first year of high school
- 4 HS advisors
- Student leaders



Program of Studies

- upsd.org
- Select UPHS
- Academics

<https://www.upsd.org/>

| PERIOD | Schedule |
|---------------------|--|
| Period 1 | 7:35-8:52 |
| Period 2 HR | 8:57-9:07 |
| Period 3 | 9:12-10:29 |
| Period 4 I/E | 10:34-11:14 |
| Period 5 | 11:19-11:49 (lunch) 11:49-1:08 |
| Period 6 | 1:13-2:30 |

| Period | Odd Days | Even Days |
|-------------------|---|---|
| Period 1 | Digital Photo (Semester 1) Energy Systems (Semester 2) | Algebra 1 |
| Period 2 Homeroom | Room 114 | Room 114 |
| Period 3 | 9th Gr Academic Social Studies | Freshman Prep (Semester 1) Health 1 (Semester 2) |
| Period 4 I/E | Day 1, Bio H Dir Study Day 3, Choir Lesson Day 5, Open X-Lab | Day 2, UPN Lab Day 4, Open Art Studio Day 6, Environmental Science Club |
| Period 5 (Lunch) | Physical Education (Semester 1) Sports Broadcasting (Semester 2) | 9th Gr English Honors |
| Period 6 | Biology Honors | Spanish 1 |

1.0 Credit Courses

- English, Social Studies, Science, Math, Foreign language
- Meet every other day in a 6-day cycle all year

Elective Subjects

- Meet every other day in a 6-day cycle for a semester
- Worth 0.5 credit
- Examples include Painting, Musical Theater, Physical Education (Semester Courses)

9th Grade Course Options

- AP (Social Studies only)
- Honors
- Academic
- Western Center

Honors

- Enriched content
- Challenges of highly competitive college work
- Involves extensive reading, writing, problem solving, and critical thinking
- Essential to success in this program is the ability to learn outside the classroom

Honors English

- Standards-based course designed to provide students with significant opportunities in demonstrating higher-order thinking skills that places emphasis on creative and evaluative tools
- *Involves a distinct focus on developing multiple modes of writing and academic style in preparation for Advanced Placement courses.*
- Examines complex texts while challenging a student's ability to think and write critically about them
- Essential to success in this course is the ability to read, discuss, and write ***rigorously and independently*** about literature and its connection to various aspects of student life and the world.
 - **Writing instruction focused on:**
 - short-responses with text-based evidence
 - long-form analytical and persuasive essay structures
 - introduction of synthesis and rhetorical analysis writing techniques
 - style, voice and tone

Academic English

- Provides students with opportunities to further skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening with a focus on PA Core Standards in Literature
- Works of fiction, contemporary and current non-fiction texts, as well as poetry, are used as tool to supplement skills-based instruction in writing and analysis.
- ***Writing is a central component of the course*** with specific emphasis on helping students further develop their written communication skills
 - Writing structure is a focal point of all units, with particular attention paid to:
 - Focus
 - Content
 - Organization
- Provides reading and writing support in a ***collaborative academic environment*** that encourages a culture of growth through regular conferencing, revision, and remediation to build basic foundational understandings of writing.

AP European History

- This is for students taking **Honors 9 English only** and are recommended by their current English and Social Studies teachers for this course.
- Students need to be able to read a college level text and will be expected to read this independently.
- The course will be more fast paced compared to the Honors 9 course
- A student's ability to memorize dates and names is less relevant than their ability to critically analyze the events of the past.
- In this regard, critical thinking ability and analytical skills are also highly desirable for students interested in AP Euro.

AP European History

- AP Historical Thinking Skills
 - analyzing evidence, interpretation, comparison, contextualization, synthesis, causation, patterns of continuity and change, periodization
- Document Based Analysis and Writing
- Long Essay Format
 - Critical thinking and historical analysis are important in these, all while the evidence you choose to use is mostly up to you.
 - Like the DBQ, organization and the creation of a strong thesis are essential components of this type of writing
- Stimulus Based Multiple Choice Questions
 - Students analyze historical texts, interpretations, and evidence.
 - Primary and secondary sources, images, graphs, and maps are included.

Honors Social Studies

This course will focus on the skills students will need to be successful at the Honors and AP level. The course is highly recommended for those taking Honors English.

- It requires similar reading and writing skills
- Students who take Honors 9 will be able to take AP American History in 10th grade.
- This course is taught as a Pre AP level course
 - It will focus on the historical skills that the AP test focuses on and type of writing required at the AP level
 - This level will provide more support for students to prepare for a future AP courses.

Honors Social Studies

Areas of Focus:

- Primary and Secondary Source Analysis
- Document Based Question and Analysis (DBQ)
- Writing
 - An essay will be assigned for most major units
 - Document Based Writing Prompts
 - SAQ format that is similar to the AP format
- Research paper and presentation on the French Revolution
- AP Style Multiple Choice - Stimulus Based Questions
 - Requires application of knowledge and not just memorization

Academic Social Studies

- Students who select academic classes should be focused on college and career readiness
- This course is recommended for students taking Academic 9 Social Studies
- The class is designed to focus on reading comprehension, critical thinking, and speaking and listening skills.
- Writing will be incorporated throughout the course but not as intensive as the Honors level
- The curriculum and skills will focus on preparation for high school academic expectations and the ELA Keystone test.

Academic Biology

- Standards-based course designed to prepare students for the Keystone Exam in Biology, which is taken near the conclusion of the course.
- **All 9th Grade students will take Biology.** Options are Honors Biology (described on the next slide), Academic Biology, or a co-taught Academic Biology class for a limited number of students in need of extra academic support.
- Approximately one laboratory experience per unit
- This course is rigorous, with a large curriculum, and is designed to prepare students for a future in college.

Honors Biology

- Standards-based course designed to prepare students for the Keystone Exam in Biology, but also to provide students with significant opportunities in demonstrating higher-order thinking skills that places emphasis on analytical skills and laboratory experience
- ***Requires the ability to read and interpret scientific texts and data, and to think analytically and logically about the information to solve problems.***
- Expands the curriculum beyond the requirements for the PA Keystone exams, while still covering all of the required information.
- Approximately 25 labs are done in the scope of the course, and the lab reports that accompany the labs.
- Requires an independent, year-long final project, mostly completed outside of class time.
- High level of rigor and expectations are designed to prepare students for future Honors courses, AP-level courses, and/or a future college or career in science.

Recommended course sequences in Mathematics

(READ DOWN)

| Grade | Academic | Honors |
|--------------|--|---|
| 9 | Proficiency/Algebra I, Algebra I or Algebra II | Algebra II (H) |
| 10 | Algebra II or Geometry | Algebra II (H) or Geometry (H) or PreCalculus (H) |
| 11 | Geometry or Algebra II | AP Statistics or Pre-Calculus (H) or Calculus or AP Calculus |
| 12 | Algebra II or Geometry or Statistics or Pre-Calculus or Calculus | |

Special Needs

- Learning Support
- Emotional Support
- Life Skills
- Autistic Support
- Multiple Disabilities Support
- Collaboration with Special Education Professionals

Weighted Grades

Scale Factor for Weighted Courses Draft

- AP 1.0
- Honors 0.5

Example

A = 4.0 in Academic Class

A = 4.5 in Honors Class

A = 5.0 in AP Class

Graduation Requirements (28 credits)

To graduate students must earn:

4.0 English

4.0 Social Studies

4.0 Mathematics

4.0 Science

Freshman Prep

1.0 Health (9th & 11th)

2.0 Physical Ed

2.0 Technology

7.0 Electives

Keystone Exams

9th Grade Academy

- **Ultimate goal:** mold and develop “high school” students to meet academic expectations
- Team of teachers who plan and are grouped together with a common goal of improving instruction and communication (consisting of one team of 8-9 teachers).
- Freshman Seminar course:
 - Study Skills (Note-taking, Active listening, Graphic Organizers)
 - Speaking Skills (Presentations)
 - Time Management & Test Preparation
 - Career Exploration (Inventory, Resume, Interview Prep)
 - Post-Secondary Planning
 - Human Relations (Problem Solving, Conflict Resolution)

Transition

- More independence
- More choices
- More responsibility
- Acquiring GPA & Class Rank
- Earning Credits Toward Graduation
- Rigor & Workload

Success in High School

- Organization
- Planning and preparation
- Assignment/project completion
- Test preparation
- Good attendance
- Open communication

Parents of the Class of 2025

Thank You For Coming!