

MEMORANDUM

To: Incoming 9th grade Teachers and Counselors
From: The 9th grade Honors Humanities Team
Re: Registration for the 9th Honors Humanities Block

For registration, please read to all 9th Graders and then post. Thank you!

For next year, as 9th graders, you may choose to meet your 9th grade Social Studies and Language Arts requirements by taking the 9th Honors Humanities Block (as opposed to the standard 9th Humanities Block). If you are considering this choice, you ought to consider several factors:

- The 9th Honors Humanities Block is designed to help you practice and develop critical thinking skills for success in advanced courses throughout high school. It is not just “9th but with more work”. Instead, Honors Humanities is a deep dive into a variety of important social justice issues including culture, civics, religion, race, gender, and human rights.
- The curriculum regularly asks students to work **together** to research, analyze, discuss and present. Students should have a strong interest in working with others and share responsibility for their own learning, as well as a desire to explore different ideas and perspectives.
- Students will be expected to complete substantial weekly homework assignments (some weeks more than others) and will be regularly assessed with in-class and at-home writing tasks, presentations, graded discussion, simulations, and projects.
- Students considering the course need to be ready to push their skills in analytical thinking, reading challenging texts, writing detailed and well-organized essays, and discussing historical and literary topics meaningfully—they also need to realize that doing these things doesn’t just require strong academic skills, but maturity as well.

We look forward to welcoming you into the course if you choose Honors Humanities.