



Honor Courses

Indicators for Student Success Checklist

Please thoughtfully consider the following criteria as you are deciding about whether Honors level courses will provide the most appropriate learning environment. A student should:

1. A student should be performing at a proficient level on a criterion referenced assessment system that includes summative tests for English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Writing before considering enrolling in an Honors level course for that subject area.
2. Have a **high level of interest** and **strong desire to be challenged** in the subject in which they would like to take an Honor course.
3. Consistently exhibit most of the following characteristics:

Learning/Intellectual Characteristics:

- ✓ Enjoys tasks that are more challenging than average
- ✓ Has a ready grasp of underlying principles and can quickly make valid generalization about events, people, and things
- ✓ Tries to understand complicated material by separating it into its respective parts; reasons things out
- ✓ Analyzes problems and considers alternatives
- ✓ Enjoys complex concepts and processes

Motivational/Affective Characteristics:

- ✓ Needs little external motivation to follow through in work completion
- ✓ Becomes absorbed and truly involved in certain topics or problems
- ✓ Often requires little direction from teachers
- ✓ Is highly self-motivated and persistent
- ✓ Has high expectations of self and others
- ✓ When deciding whether to enroll a student in a particular subject area honors course, please consider the following subject specific characteristics:

Math/Science:

- ✓ Is interested in numerical analysis
- ✓ Has a good memory for storing main features of problem and solutions
- ✓ Reasons effectively and efficiently
- ✓ Organizes data and experiments to discover patterns or relationships
- ✓ Is flexible in solving problems

Social Studies/Language Arts:

- ✓ Has advanced vocabulary for age or grade level
- ✓ Reads a great deal; does not avoid difficult material
- ✓ Enjoys language/verbal or written communication; has advanced communication skills
- ✓ Organizes ideas and sequences in preparation for speaking and writing
- ✓ Likes study and research in areas of interest

Academic Prerequisites:

- To move from a base course to an Honor course: 90% overall in base + top 10% on MAP
- To continue in Honor courses: 80% in previous course + top 10% on MAP
- Other district criteria will be considered
- Qualifying students will be placed in the Honors program