

# 2024-2025 AP/Honors Handbook



# Hutto High School

## Advanced Placement (AP) and Honors Courses

### About

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program, sponsored by the College Board, offers highly motivated and capable high school students an opportunity to take college-level courses at the local high school. Courses are offered in language arts, mathematics, social studies, science, foreign languages, art, music, and computer science at all Hutto ISD campuses. AP courses are open enrollment and participation is based on course prerequisites as indicated in the course catalog. In addition to all Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills, a wider range and greater depth of content is taught, with an emphasis on higher level critical thinking skills as well as provisions for creative and productive thinking. The students are required to complete independent as well as guided research. Upon successful completion of the course, the student receives high school credit.

To help students prepare for the demands of the Advanced Placement Program, Hutto High School, Hutto Ninth Grade Center, Farley Middle School, Hutto Middle School, and Gus Almquist Middle School offer Honors courses in most of the disciplines. Honors courses help bridge the gap between on level and AP courses to ensure student success. Honors courses are strongly recommended for students interested in entering the AP program.

### Who can take AP/Honors courses?

All students are welcome to take AP and Honors courses. Students who take an AP or Honors course are usually interested in the subject and committed to the class.

To enroll in an AP course, it is recommended that the student meets at least one of these criteria:

1. Mastery of the STAAR in the related content area course.
2. Current or previous year performance in related content area courses: an A semester average in an academic course OR a B or better semester average in a Honors course.
3. Teacher recommendation.
4. Receive a counselor recommendation based on the cumulative folder data and parent/student conference.

Interested students should see his/her counselor or teacher. Additional information is available from the campus AP coordinator and on the [College Board website](#).

## Characteristics of Honors/AP Students

- Score at the mastery level of the STAAR/EOC test closely related to the Honors or AP course being taken.
- Be able to secure a favorable recommendation from previous teachers who can speak to your ability and demonstrated willingness to successfully engage in rigorous coursework.
- Actively and respectfully engage in class discussion and group work with thoughtful ideas and meaningful contribution to shared work products.
- Demonstrate academic integrity when completing individual and group assignments, mindful of intellectual property and copyright laws and the consequences of plagiarism and improper use of AI.
- Demonstrate willingness to learn, improve, and grow academically.
- Be curious about other viewpoints and able to accept differences of opinion.
- Demonstrate control of mechanics, grammar, and usage, organization, diction, and syntax in written expression.
- Possess a respect for learning in general and interest in the subject matter of the course in particular.


## AP/Honors Courses Offered at Hutto NGC and Hutto High School

English	Mathematics	Social Studies	Science	CTE	Fine Arts	Foreign Languages
Honors English 1	Honors Geometry	AP Human Geography (NGC)	Honors Biology	Engineering Mathematics	AP Studio Art	Honors Spanish 2
Honors English 2	Honors Algebra 2	AP World History	Honors Chemistry	AP Computer Science Principles	AP Drawing	Honors Spanish 3
AP Language & Composition	Honors PreCalculus	AP US History	AP Physics 1		AP 2D Design	AP Spanish 4 (NGC & HHS)
AP English Literature	AP Statistics	AP US Government	AP Physics 2		AP 3D Design	
	AP Calculus AB	AP European History	Honors Anatomy & Physiology			
	AP Calculus BC	AP Economics	Medical Microbiology			
	AP Computer Science A	AP Psychology	AP Biology			
	Advanced Quantitative Reasoning (Honors)		AP Chemistry			
			AP Environmental Science			

***\*Courses listed may have prerequisites and may not be listed in order. Refer to the course catalog for specifics.***

## Honors/AP Course Expectations:

**Grading:** Honors/AP courses will receive weighted grading when figuring grade point averages for class rank.

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- Homework/Daily: 40%
- Assessments: 60%

**Retesting:** Honors/AP courses do allow for retesting. Students are expected to be prepared for every test. However, if a student scores less than a 70 on a major or minor assessment, the student must complete all of the following actions before they can retest:

- Must attend tutoring prior to retest for reteach
- Must complete all missing homework/daily assignments prior to retest
- Must correct the original test prior to retest

After a student has satisfactorily completed these actions, they may retest prior to the next assessment administration within one week of the initial grade being received. The highest of the two test attempts will be recorded up to a maximum of 70. Semester final exams are not subject to retesting.

## Recovery of Daily Assignments/Homework-Academic Courses and HONORS/AP Courses:

If a student has originally submitted a “Good faith effort” attempt at an assignment, students will be given 3 school days for academic courses and 1 school day for HONORS/AP courses from the time grades are posted on Family/Student Access to recover a daily/homework failing grade (69 or below).

Recovery assignment grades will be awarded according to individual course criteria. The teachers shall choose one of the following methods for the student to demonstrate mastery:

- Providing an alternative assignment
- Allowing for corrections to the assignment
- Allowing the student to redo the original assignment

It is the responsibility of the teacher to communicate their recovery methods to the student and parent through their course syllabus, which can be shared through the teacher's Canvas course, website, email, or direct communication. Teachers will update grades weekly with Principals determining the day of the week grade updates are due. **Weekly grades must be updated by following Friday the work was due or by the conclusion of the grading period.** It is the student's responsibility to seek the opportunity to recover upon notification of a failing grade. And it is the responsibility of the teacher to ensure that grades are updated per campus policy. Failing grades not recovered within the 3 days will be recorded as the final grade earned.

### **Make-Up Work for Absences**

Students shall be expected to make up assignments and tests after absences. Students shall receive a zero for any assignment or test not made up within the allotted time, unless prior approval is given by the principal or designee. Students will be given one day to make up work for each day they are absent (excused or unexcused), with exceptions made due to severe or prolonged illness. Students will not receive a grade penalty for makeup work from an absence due to suspension. Students will not receive credit for makeup work when the absence is due to truancy, instead, students will receive a "missing" for the assignment. Zeroes cannot be assigned until the campus intervention plan and/or late work policies have been utilized.

**Summer Assignments:** Students enrolled in AP/Honors courses must complete the summer assignments for that grade level (if required). If a student fails to successfully complete the assignment(s), they will receive a zero as an assessment grade or may request placement in an on-level course. In addition, students and parents should know assignments for the school year are both strenuous and strict and have been selected on educational merit and from AP College Board recommendations.

**Academic Dishonesty:** The student handbook defines plagiarism as the use of another person's original ideas or writing as one's own without giving the other person credit. Students guilty of plagiarism are subject to academic and/or disciplinary action and dismissal from the course.

### **Academic Integrity Statement:**

A student found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to grade penalties on assignments or tests and disciplinary penalties in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an assignment and examination.

The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or another supervising professional

employee, taking into consideration written materials, observation, or information from students. Incidents of academic dishonesty may result in a disciplinary referral, parental contact, and a penalty of a zero on the assignment/test/project ([EIA Local](#)). Further consequences might include removal from academic organizations including, but not limited to, National Honor Society.

**Plagiarism** includes but is not limited to:

- taking someone else's assignment or portion of an assignment and submitting it as one's own
- submitting material written by someone else or rephrasing the ideas of another without giving the author's name or source
- presenting the work of tutors, parents, siblings, or friends as one's own
- AI-assisted plagiarism\*\* (see section below)

**Cheating** includes but is not limited to:

- in any way duplicating assignments which are turned in, wholly or in part, as original work
- exchanging and/or providing assignments with/to other students, either handwritten or computer generated, whether it is believed they will be copied or not
- giving or receiving answers during tests or quizzes (It is the student's responsibility to secure his or her papers so other students will not have the opportunity or the temptation to copy.)
- accessing a test or quiz for the purpose of determining the questions in advance of its administration
- submitting school related assignments which include but not limited to; in-class and homework, projects, tests, quizzes, reports, essays, etc) wholly or in part, as original work using A-I assisted technology\*\* (see section below)

**Generative AI Tools:**

- Teachers should communicate clearly with students about the allowed use of AI tools on specific assignments. If it is not explicitly stated that an AI tool may be used, the use of AI on the assignment (in-class and homework, projects, tests, quizzes, reports, essays, etc.) wholly or in part as the student's original work is prohibited and will be counted as cheating. The student will receive the same consequences for displaying academic dishonesty.

**No Pass/No Play Waivers:** Students enrolled in AP/Honors are eligible for one waiver to No Pass/No Play requirements. Students must complete a waiver form (available in the front office) that must be approved by the instructor of the course as well as the principal.

## Requirements for AP/Honors Students

- Complete summer assignment to be turned in on a specified date (failure to complete this assignment will result in either a zero being given for the assignment as an assessment grade or removal from the course).
- Maintain a minimum average of at least 70 each nine weeks in all subjects
- Complete Independent Projects as assigned. (Course Specific)

**Requirements to take an AP Exam:** It is highly encouraged that students take the AP Exam that corresponds to the course in which they are enrolled. Every AP student is required to take at least one AP exam. An AP student is defined as a student enrolled in at least one AP course.

As a district, we understand the cost associated with taking AP exams and each year, the District commits to assisting students with the financial cost of taking the AP exam. Hutto ISD will cover a portion of the exam fee and the student will be responsible for \$50 per exam. As the College Board increases exam costs, this percentage of support from the District may vary each year. There are no refunds on fees paid toward AP Exams. In addition, if a student registers for an AP Exam and then does not attend the exam, the student will be responsible for the portion of the exam that was paid by the district and any other fees the district may be assessed.

*\*fees are reduced for students with financial need – please see your counselor*  
*\*\*AP Capstone Exams have an increased fee, students will only be charged the cost of the regular AP exam fee and Hutto ISD will cover the balance.*

**Hutto High School**

**2024-2025 Honors/AP Handbook Acknowledgement**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name (Last, First)                      Student ID#                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Subject    Teacher

**I have read the HHS Honors/AP Handbook and agree to abide by its contents.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature    Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature    Date



**Note: Please sign and return the Handbook Acknowledgement page to the teacher.**

**The Complete Handbook can be found on the Hutto ISD website**