Course Selection

Students must be enrolled in 8 courses per year. Students will take four classes in the fall and four classes in the spring. Students may not select which courses occur in which semester.

- Upperclassmen: Current 9th through 11th graders will select courses for the upcoming academic year in February using PowerSchool Class Registration. Students should reference their four-year plan (pg. 19) and requirements for graduation (pg. 12-13) when selecting their courses. Counselors will meet with students to review their course selections before sending a final verification to parents/guardians. If a student has not registered for courses by the end of the selection period, the school will assign a schedule to him or her.
- Rising Freshmen: Course selection for rising freshmen occurs at the middle school using PowerSchool Class Registration. HHS counselors will facilitate the process with middle school counselors.

Course Levels

Houston High School encourages students to take the most rigorous courses they are prepared to handle while avoiding overload. When selecting courses, students should consider their full schedule—jobs, activities, time-management skills, academic strengths, areas for growth, and whether they may need additional support.

Standard

These courses are based on specific academic standards which develop mastery of skills necessary for students to be prepared for life after high school. Students who successfully complete standard courses will graduate on time and be prepared for the challenges of college, the workforce, or both.

- Standard courses are focused on post-secondary readiness and will prepare students for many early post-secondary courses available at HHS, especially Dual Enrollment courses
- Each Standard course is part of the state's graduation requirements either within a sequence of required content credits or as elective credits which offer students more individualized choice
- Standard courses require students to apply prior and new learning across the curriculum, to think critically, and to practice content specific skills to evidence learning in multiple formats

Honors

Honors courses are academically advanced and accelerated courses offered as companions to many Standard courses, and instruction is based on the same grade level and content standards. Like students of Standard courses, students who successfully complete Honors coursework will be well prepared for post-secondary life.

- Like Standard, Honors courses are focused on post-secondary readiness and will prepare students for many early post-secondary courses available at HHS
- Like Standard, Honors courses require students to apply prior and new learning across the curriculum, to think critically, and to practice content specific skills to evidence learning in multiple formats, but additionally require deeper knowledge, synthesis of multiple content areas, and more mature or expert responses
- Honors courses will better prepare students for the rigor, depth, and expectations of future Advanced Placement courses
- To prepare students for AP courses, Honors courses do often include challenging content, a brisker pace, and additional demands for independent, self-directed study in addition to summer enrichment assignments
- Students receive 3 additional percentage points applied to grading periods & semester exams