

Class of 2030

Welcome to Upper School



Program Overview



- Part 1: General Academic Information
- Part 2: Upper School Programs
- Part 3: Individual Graduation Plan (IGP) Process
- Part 4: Blue Folders
- Part 5: Next Steps and Staying Connected

Part 1: General Academic Information



- HHCA Graduation Requirements
- Course Levels and Weight
- GPA - Unweighted/Weighted
- Transcript

HHCA Graduation Requirements



- 4 English*
- 4 Math*
- 4 Science*
- 4 Bible*
- 3+ Social Studies
(Req: US History, Gov/Econ, + 1 other)
- 2+ World Language *(Same language)*
- 1 Computer Science
- 1 Physical Education
- 1 Fine Arts
- 0.5 Personal Finance
(S.C. requirement beginning with Class of 2027)

*** must be enrolled each year in grades 9-12**

24.5 Total Credits + Electives



High School - Every Class Counts

- All high school courses count on transcript for college admissions
- Weighted GPA is on a 6.0 scale (SC UGP)
- Unweighted GPA is on a 4.0 scale
- **Bottom Line: *Do your best! Correct course placement matters!***



Course Levels and Weight

- **College Preparatory (CP)**- carries no additional weight
- **Honors (H)**- carries .5 additional weight
- **Advanced Placement (AP)/Dual Enrollment (DE)**- carries 1.0 additional weight



Unweighted GPA (for Colleges*)

| | |
|---|-----|
| A | 4.0 |
| B | 3.0 |
| C | 2.0 |
| D | 1.0 |



Weighted GPA (SC Uniform Grading Policy)

| Grade | CP | Honors (+0.5) | AP/DE (+1.0) |
|-------|------|------------------|-----------------|
| 100 | 5.0 | 5.5 | 6.0 |
| 88 | 3.8 | 4.3 | 4.8 |
| 75 | 2.5 | 3.0 | 3.5 |
| GPA | 3.77 | 4.27 | 4.77 |

<https://ed.sc.gov/districts-schools/state-accountability/uniform-grading-policy/>



Unweighted GPA

- Academic rigor not taken into account
- CP, H and AP/DE all the same value
- Used by college admissions for even playing field across US schools

Weighted GPA

- Includes the academic rigor of each course
- CP, H and AP/DE valued by quality points (0, +.5, +1)
- Used for class rank for SC scholarship purposes

Transcript



Grades

2021 - 2022 Grade: 9 *Hilton Head Christian Academy*

| | Final | Credit |
|--------------------------|-------|--------|
| Algebra 1 H | 92 | 1.00 |
| Biology H | 89 | 1.00 |
| Computer Science | 91 | 1.00 |
| English 1 H | 87 | 1.00 |
| Human Geography H | 87 | 1.00 |
| Spanish 1 | 95 | 1.00 |
| Sports Leadership Fall | 95 | 1.00 |
| Sports Leadership Spring | 97 | 1.00 |

2022 - 2023 Grade: 10 *Hilton Head Christian Academy*

| | Final | Credit |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|
| Chemistry H | 84 | 1.00 |
| Geometry H | 90 | 1.00 |
| NT: Character Studies | 97 | 0.50 |
| Rhetoric & Composition CP | 90 | 1.00 |
| Spanish 2 | 85 | 1.00 |
| The Divinity of Christ | 87 | 0.50 |
| World History H | 93 | 1.00 |
| World Literature H | 93 | 1.00 |
| Ceramics 1 | 95 | 1.00 |

2023 - 2024 Grade: 11 *Hilton Head Christian Academy*

| | Final | Credit |
|-----------------|-------|--------|
| Algebra 2 H | 94 | 1.00 |
| Yearbook 1 Fall | 92 | 1.00 |

2023 - 2024 Grade: 11 *Technical College of the Lowcountry*

| | Final | Credit |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|
| ENG-101 English Composition I | 95 | 1.00 |

Numeric: 91.17 Unweighted: 3.69 Weighted-SCUGP: 4.4263

Future Impacts:

- College Admissions
- Scholarships, Grants, Aid
- Internships
- Jobs
- Military Service

Credit Accumulation

| Credit Accumulation | | |
|---------------------|--------------|-------------|
| | Academic | Electives |
| 9 | 6.00 | 2.00 |
| 10 | 7.00 | 1.00 |
| 11 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| 11 | 1.00 | 0.00 |
| | 15.00 | 4.00 |

GPA

Courses in Progress

| Courses in Progress | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| PLTW Biomedical Science 1 H | |
| Spanish 3 CP | |
| Worldview Through the Prophets | |

Transcript



Final Grades

Classes

2022 - 2023 Grade: 10 Hilton Head Christian Academy

| | Final | Credit |
|---------------------------|-------|--------|
| Chemistry H | 84 | 1.00 |
| Geometry H | 90 | 1.00 |
| NT: Character Studies | 97 | 0.50 |
| Rhetoric & Composition CP | 90 | 1.00 |
| Spanish 2 | 85 | 1.00 |
| The Divinity of Christ | 87 | 0.50 |
| World History H | 93 | 1.00 |
| World Literature H | 93 | 1.00 |
| Ceramics 1 | 95 | 1.00 |

2023 - 2024 Grade: 11 Hilton Head Christian Academy

| | Final | Credit |
|-----------------|-------|--------|
| Algebra 2 H | 94 | 1.00 |
| Yearbook 1 Fall | 92 | 1.00 |

2023 - 2024 Grade: 11 Technical College of the Lowcountry

| | Final | Credit |
|-------------------------------|-------|--------|
| ENG-101 English Composition I | 95 | 1.00 |

Credits

GPA

Numeric: 91.17

Unweighted: 3.69

Weighted-SCUGP: 4.4263

Transcript



GRADING SCALE

HHCA uses the S.C. Uniform Grading Policy (SC UGP)

Honors: Add .5

WP: Withdrawn Passing

AP/DE: Add 1.0

WF: Withdrawn Failing

| | | | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|
| A: 100 | 5.0 | B: 89 | 3.9 | C: 79 | 2.9 | D: 69 | 1.9 | F: 59 | 0.9 |
| 99 | 4.9 | 88 | 3.8 | 78 | 2.8 | 68 | 1.8 | 58 | 0.8 |
| 98 | 4.8 | 87 | 3.7 | 77 | 2.7 | 67 | 1.7 | 57 | 0.7 |
| 97 | 4.7 | 86 | 3.6 | 76 | 2.6 | 66 | 1.6 | 56 | 0.6 |
| 96 | 4.6 | 85 | 3.5 | 75 | 2.5 | 65 | 1.5 | 55 | 0.5 |
| 95 | 4.5 | 84 | 3.4 | 74 | 2.4 | 64 | 1.4 | 54 | 0.4 |
| 94 | 4.4 | 83 | 3.3 | 73 | 2.3 | 63 | 1.3 | 53 | 0.3 |
| 93 | 4.3 | 82 | 3.2 | 72 | 2.2 | 62 | 1.2 | 52 | 0.2 |
| 92 | 4.2 | 81 | 3.1 | 71 | 2.1 | 61 | 1.1 | 51 | 0.1 |
| 91 | 4.1 | 80 | 3.0 | 70 | 2.0 | 60 | 1.0 | 0-50 | 0.0 |
| 90 | 4.0 | | | | | | | | |

Part 2: Upper School Programs

- Advanced Placement (AP)
- Dual Enrollment (DE)
- Project Lead The Way (PLTW)
- Internships
- Diploma with Distinction



AP Program & Courses



- The [AP Program](#) offers college-level courses and exams that you can take in high school.
- [AP Course Descriptions](#)

Social Studies:

AP Human Geography
AP European History
AP US History
AP Government &
Politics

AP Microeconomics

Math:

AP Precalculus
AP Calculus AB
AP Statistics

Science:

AP Biology

English:

AP English Language &
Composition
AP English Literature &
Composition

Electives:

AP Seminar
AP Research
AP Psychology
AP Music Theory
AP Art

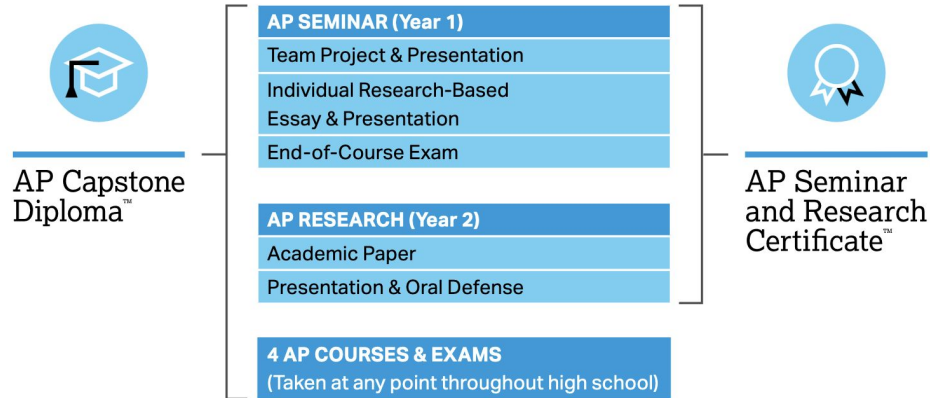
AP Capstone Program Overview



How It Works

If you earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of your choice, you'll receive the **AP Capstone Diploma™**.

If you earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research, you'll receive the **AP Seminar and Research Certificate™**.



- [Video Link - AP Capstone: A Paradigm Shift from Content to Skills](#)

HHCA Dual Enrollment Program



- Eligible juniors and seniors can take college courses in high school for both high school and college credit (on both transcripts)
- Extra cost
- 1.0 credit is awarded with an additional weighting of one quality point
- HHCA partners with [Technical College of the Lowcountry \(TCL\)](#)

AP (Advanced Placement) Credit

- AP classes offer the possibility of earning college credit by taking a test in May.
- AP classes incur a fee of about \$95 per course.
- AP classes are taught by HHCA mentors on the HHCA campus in a Christ-centered environment.
- Each college has its own policy for AP credit acceptance, which you can explore [here](https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/getting-credit-placement/search-policies/course/5): <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/getting-credit-placement/search-policies/course/5>
- Score range for college credit is 3 to 5.

Dual Enrollment Credit

- Dual Enrollment courses offer high school and college credit at the end of a semester.
- Dual Enrollment courses incur fees determined by the institution, starting around \$300 per course, plus book fees.
- Dual Enrollment courses are taught by college professors on college campuses (or online).
- Dual Enrollment courses usually transfer in state, but may or may not transfer out-of-state.
- Explore SC dual enrollment transfer credit acceptance [here](https://www.sctrac.org/Student/Search-for-Course-Equivalencies): <https://www.sctrac.org/Student/Search-for-Course-Equivalencies>
- IN STATE (SC), [86 dual credit classes \(www.sctrac.org\)](http://www.sctrac.org) are guaranteed to transfer to state universities with a certain grade.
- OUT OF STATE: Dual Enrollment courses should be checked for transferability on the desired college's website.

PLTW - Project Lead The Way



- PLTW: Where STEM Curriculum Meets Career Readiness
- Project- and problem-based curriculum
- Students apply what they know, identify problems, find unique solutions, and lead their own learning
- Courses Offered:
 - Computer Science
 - Engineering Essentials
 - Biomedical Science*
 - Human Body Systems*
(prereq: Biomedical Science)

* Possibility to earn college credit

Internships



- Junior and Senior Years
- Why Intern?
 - Real-World **Experience** and Insights
 - Get Your Questions Answered
 - Build Your Resume
 - Hone in on Your Skillset
 - Community Connections and Potential Future Placements

Diploma with Distinction: Timeline



Background Research

- Annotated Bibliography Construction
- Literature Review Production and Acceptance

August 2024

Project Drafts and Revisions

- Draft Submissions and Revisions
- Mentor Critique
- Final Draft Construction
- Mentor Approval

February 2025

**DwD Mentor:
Mr. Collins**

Module 1

Module 2

Module 3

Module 4

Module 5

Project Formation and Introduction

- Proposal Construction
- Mentor Selection
- Committee Formation
- Project Introduction and Acceptance

March 2024

Project Outline and Methodologies

- Methodology Review Development
- Calendar Preparation and Approval
- Resource List

October 2024

Defense and Presentation

- Committee Approval
- Panel Defense
- Reflections
- Revisions and Recognition

May 2025

Visit <https://www.hhca.org/academics/upper-school> for more info & past project examples

Part 3: The IGP Process



- Mentor Recommendations
 - Criteria
 - Waiver Process
- IGP meeting to select 9th grade courses
 - Freshman Courses/Course Request Form
 - Graduation requirement tracking
- Student schedules released August 2026

Recommendation Criteria

Grades/MAP Scores

Attendance/Preparation/Organization

Desire/Passion/Engagement

Classroom Performance/Participation

Critical Thinking/Communication Capacities

Upcoming Content Concerns

Illness/Extenuating Circumstances Impacted Performance

*** Strongly consider mentor recommendations each year ***





Course Waiver Form



Hilton Head Christian Academy Course Placement Waiver

Student Name: _____ Grade Level: _____ Date: _____

Current Class: _____ Grade in Class: _____

Students are recommended for courses based on previous academic performance, standardized testing, and teacher recommendations. Proper academic placement is essential to facilitate academic success; thus, students placed in courses for which they are not recommended may struggle to meet the advanced course expectations. For this reason, the following waiver and plan for student monitoring must be agreed upon before final placement is confirmed.

_____ *(Requested course)*

Students and parents, please initial each statement to confirm understanding:

___/___ We acknowledge that the student has not met the HHCA placement criteria established to indicate readiness and anticipated success in the requested course and is at risk of struggling with the pace of instruction and/or depth of knowledge required.

Criteria not met: _____

___/___ We acknowledge that student outcomes, when placed in advanced classes under these circumstances, may result in negative impacts on student GPA and corresponding, future course placements.

___/___ We acknowledge that monitoring and communication will be essential to ensure success, and HHCA will perform grade checks in the course after two weeks and four weeks to confirm student achievement meets a 80 percent threshold; if this mark is not met, students will be reseatd in the originally recommended section (CP or Honors). Reseatng most likely will require the student's courses/electives to change based on availability and course period offerings.

___/___ We acknowledge that if the student does not meet the final grade of 80 percent in a waived course, they will not be able to waive into a different level the following school year for that content area.

Please see page 2 for required signatures



Hilton Head Christian Academy Course Placement Waiver

Having read and understood all of the above, we nonetheless request that our student be placed in the course requested above.

Date _____ Print Student Name _____ Student Signature _____

Date _____ Print Parent Name _____ Parent Signature _____

Parent Email _____ Parent Cell Phone # _____

Date _____ Counselor or Administrator Acknowledgement _____

Part 4: Blue Folder-Left Side

- Graduation Planning Worksheet
- Course Request Form
- Course Progression
- Elective Course Descriptions

Freshmen Courses and Course Request Form

- English
- Math
- Science
- Social Studies
- Bible
- Spanish
- Fine Arts
- PE

| Hilton Head Christian Academy 9th Grade Course Request Form | |
|---|--|
| Student Name: _____ | |
| English <input type="checkbox"/> English 1 CP <input type="checkbox"/> English 1 H | Fine Arts (fine arts requests are not guaranteed) <input type="checkbox"/> Art: Design Fundamentals <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing 1 & Painting 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Ceramics 1 & Sculpture 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Band 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Eagles Jazz Band 1 ¹ <input type="checkbox"/> Strings 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Musical Theater Production <input type="checkbox"/> Music Exploration <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 1900-1960 (fall)○ 1960-Present (spring) |
| Math <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 1 CP <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 1 H <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry CP <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry H <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra 2 H | Physical Education <input type="checkbox"/> PE & Health <input type="checkbox"/> Strength & Fitness 1 (boys) <input type="checkbox"/> Strength & Fitness 1 (girls) |
| Social Studies <input type="checkbox"/> Human Geography CP <input type="checkbox"/> Human Geography H <input type="checkbox"/> AP Human Geography | ¹ Invitation only |
| Science <input type="checkbox"/> Biology CP <input type="checkbox"/> Biology H | |
| Bible <input type="checkbox"/> Bible <input type="checkbox"/> Worship Leadership ¹ | |
| World Language <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish 3 CP <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish 3 H | |
| Academic Resource Center <input type="checkbox"/> ARC | |



Hilton Head Christian Academy Course of Study



| English | Social Studies | World Languages | Mathematics | Science |
|--|--|------------------|------------------|---|
| Upper School Courses | | | | |
| <i>Juniors and seniors with a 3.0 GPA (unweighted) may enroll in dual enrollment courses with one of our college partners.</i> | | | | |
| AP English Literature <hr/> British Literature (CP/H) | AP Government & Politics <hr/> Government (CP/H) + Economics (CP/H) | | AP Statistics | AP Biology |
| AP English Language <hr/> American Literature (CP/H) | AP US History <hr/> US History (CP/H) | | AP Calculus AB | AP Chemistry <small>(not offered in 2025-2026)</small> |
| World Literature (CP/H) | AP European History <hr/> World History (CP/H) | Spanish 3 (CP/H) | AP PreCalc | Physics (H) <hr/> PLTW Human Body Systems (H) |
| English 1 (CP/H) | AP Human Geography <hr/> Human Geography (CP/H) | Spanish 2 (CP) | Statistics (CP) | PLTW Biomedical Sciences (H) |
| | Personal Finance (CP) | Spanish 1 (CP) | Algebra 3 (CP/H) | Environmental Science (CP/H) |
| | | | Algebra 2 (CP/H) | Marine Biology (CP/H) |
| | | | Geometry (CP/H) | Chemistry (CP/H) |
| | | | Algebra 1 (CP/H) | Biology (CP/H) |

Electives Course Offerings/Descriptions



2026-2027 Grade 9 Elective Descriptions

Fine Arts Electives

Art Design Fundamentals-Explore foundational principles of visual arts in this introductory high school course. Delve into various mediums, techniques, and artistic styles while developing your creative expression. Gain skills in drawing, painting, sculpture, and printmaking more through hands-on projects and artistic exploration.

Ceramics 1/Sculpture 1 - Ceramics explores clay manipulation, including hand-building and basic wheel throwing, progressing through the entire ceramic process, culminating in functional and sculptural pieces while emphasizing health/safety, artistic expression, and critiquing personal and historical works. **Sculpture** explores the fundamentals of creating 3D art, exploring elements like form, space, and texture through hands-on projects using materials like clay, wire, wood, and found objects, focusing on techniques like modeling, carving, and assembling, while also introducing historical context and contemporary concepts through lectures, demonstrations, and critiques.

Drawing 1/Painting 1 - Drawing teaches fundamental skills like line, shape, form, shading, and composition through observation and developing hand-eye coordination with materials like graphite, charcoal, pastels, and ink. It's a foundational course for understanding "how to see" and translate vision onto paper. The class is structured to increase the confidence and ability to draw for each student. **Painting** covers fundamental elements like composition, color theory, and brushwork, using versatile media like acrylics, watercolors, and gouache to explore techniques such as blending, layering, and creating texture, while fostering creative expression through observation, interpretation, and building a foundation for developing personal artistic style and critique skills. Students learn material basics, explore different approaches, and build confidence by translating visual ideas into tangible works.

Band 1 - Designed for upper school students who want to begin their instrumental study without playing in a competitive ensemble, this course will focus on foundational instrumental skills on a band instrument of your choice.

Eagles Jazz Band 1 - This top level instrumental group will focus on many aspects playing in a jazz ensemble, including playing various styles of music, improvisation, and blend. This ensemble performs at a competitive level and at least 3+ years of instrumental experience is required.

Strings 1 - Upper School strings classes provide group instruction in violin, viola, cello, and double bass. Instruction emphasizes the development of scales, foundational music theory, articulation, and a variety of performance techniques through the study of repertoire from diverse musical genres. Students are required to supply their own instrument, and a minimum of two years of prior playing experience is preferred. All string classes prepare for and participate in two to three concerts throughout the academic year.

Music Exploration (1900-Present) - In this course get a basic survey of music from 1900 through the present day, both studying music history and diving into various genres, instruments, and musical styles, discovering your passions through hands-on exploration and creative projects.

Musical Theater Production - Bring a musical to life in this dynamic, hands-on course! Students will explore acting, singing, dancing, and technical production while collaborating to stage a full-scale performance in the spring of 2027. An audition and production agreement is required.

Physical Education Electives

Physical Education & Health - This course will cover individual and team sports, lifetime fitness activities, and health and wellness concepts.

Strength & Fitness 1 - Participation in physical activity, sports, strength building, speed development, and project creation will be addressed during this course. The goal for this course is to lead and guide students to new: skills, concepts, techniques, activity, movement, and personal responsibility.

Blue Folder-Right Side



- 9/10 College Planning
- AP Capstone Overview
- *Who Am I?* Form

Part 5: Next Steps and Staying Connected



1. Schedule an Individual Graduation Planning (IGP) meeting using Calendly link provided in previous email communications. Meetings run until March 31.
2. Review packet and bring with you to your IGP meeting
3. Complete the *Who Am I?* Form and bring to IGP meeting

Staying Connected



- Remind: HHCA Class of 2030- text **@hhca2030 to 828db7**
- Guidance webpages: www.hhca.org/guidance
www.hhca.org/college
- Director of Guidance, Mrs. Megan Robbins:
mrobbins@hhca.org
- College & Career Advisor, Mrs. Haley Arttime:
hartime@hhca.org

Questions?

Getting a Head Start

Preparing for College

What are colleges looking for?



- Academics
 - Course Rigor
 - Test Scores
 - Grades/GPA
- Extracurriculars
 - What are you spending your time on? What's important to you?
 - Leadership
 - Consistency
- Intellectual Vitality
 - Curiosity
 - Passion
 - Exploring New Ideas

How can you start preparing?



- Grades matter!
- Build relationships (LOR)
- Build a resume
- Career exploration
- ACT/SAT Strategy
 - Start test prep in winter/early spring of Sophomore year.
 - Ideally have taken, or are taking, Algebra 2.
 - Take your first test summer/early fall of Junior year.

QUALIFYING CRITERIA

SC HOPE

\$2,800

- Attend an eligible four-year institution
- 3.0 SC UGP GPA



LIFE

\$5,000

Two-Year Institution

- 3.0 SC UGP GPA

Four-year Institution (Meet 2 out of 3)

- 3.0 SC UGP GPA
- 1100 SAT or 22 ACT
- Rank in top 30% of graduating class*

*Cannot use rank if graduating mid-year



Palmetto Fellows

\$6,700 year 1
\$7,500 year 2-4

- 3.5 SC UGP GPA; and
- 1200 SAT or 25 ACT; and
- Top 6% rank in either 10, 11, 12

Without regard to rank (Alternative Criteria)

- 4.0 SC UGP GPA; and
- 1400 SAT or 31 ACT

*Mid-year graduates MUST apply prior to mid-year graduation date

