

TAHS Honors Program

Description:

Tea Area High School honors courses challenge students academically at a more rigorous, in-depth, and faster pace. The goal within an honors course is to help students develop more effective written and oral communication skills as well as become more independent thinkers. Also, within an honors course students will develop their ability to analyze and synthesize a range of material and formulate critical thinking skills. Honors courses are designed to help better prepare our students for success in a college setting. Students are challenged to acquire the skills, knowledge, and study habits necessary for success at the college level. Within an honors course setting students cooperate with an academic peer group with focused goals, in an intellectually rich community.

Students in the Honors Program will follow the requirements of the Advanced Honors Endorsement, and work toward the South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship.

Grading Scale/GPA:

The TAHS Honors Program will utilize the Advanced Placement (AP)/college level grading scale: 100-95 A, 94-90 A-, 89-87 B+, 86-83 B, 82-80 B-, 79-77 C+, 76-73 C, 72-70 C-, 69-67 D+, 66-63 D, 62-60 D- as found in the Tea Area High School Handbook.

The TAHS Honors Program will utilize the High School Level 4.0 Grade Point Average scale found in this document (unless the course is of college/AP rigor). Honors courses will be weighted the same as all other non-college level courses.

Admissions:

All Honors courses require a summer activity (due August 1st) with the possibility of additional academic obligations. Teacher recommendations, based on various performance indices including grades, as well as Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) assessments will be utilized to determine placement in Honors courses. Administration has final approval on all scheduling.

Suggested Core Honors Graduation Track

Grade 9: Honors English I Literature and Composition, Honors Biology, Accelerated Geometry, Honors World History and Geography

Grade 10: Honors Composition II and Speech, Honors Chemistry, Accelerated Algebra 2 and AP U.S. History*

Grade 11: Honors English III American Literature and Composition, Precalculus, Honors Physics, AP Psychology

Grade 12: College English*, AP Calculus AB*, Biomedical Sciences, Personal Finance/Economics, Government, Senior Experience or Internship

Note: Additional courses are considered honors courses and include: PLTW Biomedical Sciences, PLTW Engineering, PLTW Computer Sciences, all AP offerings and all dual credit offerings.

Grade Point Average (GPA)

The following scale will be used in determining grade point averages. Advanced Placement (AP)/Dual Credit* classes are weighted higher due to increased rigor. Class rank is determined by using cumulative grade point average of all classes beginning with 9th grade. Pass/Fail courses shall not be used in the calculation of Grade Point Averages. Courses retaken will be included in the Grade Point Average.

<u>AP/College/Dual Credit Classes *</u>			<u>Traditional Courses</u>		
A	=	4.200	A	=	4.000
A-	=	3.867	A-	=	3.667
B+	=	3.533	B+	=	3.333
B	=	3.200	B	=	3.000
B-	=	2.867	B-	=	2.667
C+	=	2.533	C+	=	2.333
C	=	2.200	C	=	2.000
C-	=	1.867	C-	=	1.667
D+	=	1.533	D+	=	1.333
D	=	1.200	D	=	1.000
D-	=	.867	D-	=	.667

Other grades which may be received:

F = Fail

P = Pass

I = Incomplete

W = Withdrawal