

HONORS ENGLISH AND HONORS WORLD HISTORY: A *PROFILE*

General Information:

The courses for the ninth grade honors programs are designed to meet the needs of the highly able student who has superior ability, a mastery of skills, high self-motivation, and a strong desire to be challenged in the specific areas of English and/or Social Studies. The courses have the highest level of difficulty for the particular grade level--the most in quantity of work and assignments, the highest expectations in quality of performance, and a great deal of independent work. Any student enrolled in an honors class **must** maintain a B average throughout the year in order to continue in that class, unless given special permission by the Supervisor. Students will be recommended for continuation in the Honors Program by their teacher upon the successful completion of their current course with a minimum of a B average.

Honors students are expected to maintain a high level of academic interest, demonstrate a sophisticated level of critical thinking, and be self-motivated learners and generators of scholarly material. Honors students must additionally demonstrate their ability to be effective writers, in order to enhance communication and shared knowledge within the classroom.

Honors English 1:

Students in English honors programs will be engaged in the intensive analysis of representative works from various genres and periods while learning to precisely and effectively use written and oral language to organize their ideas in clear and coherent ways. Through speaking, listening, writing, and reading, students will learn to recognize and utilize a variety of rhetorical strategies for more effective communication.

1. Honors English students will read extensively throughout the course of the school year. Honors students should be eager and discerning readers, capable of responding to abstract references and nuances of meaning as they engage with a work of literature.
3. In addition, students will be required to write frequently and extensively, completing assignments that emphasize analysis, creativity, and the ability to engage in critical evaluation. Honors students complete weekly writing assignments and long-term and nightly written homework.

Honors World History:

The objectives of the Honors Program in Social Studies demand considerable student involvement in the analysis, synthesis, and evaluation of historical data. Students are expected to maintain a high level of academic interest, demonstrate a sophisticated level of critical thinking, and be self-motivated learners and generators of scholarly material. Honors students must

additionally demonstrate their ability to be effective writers in order to enhance communication and shared knowledge within the classroom.

1. Honors World History students will be required to complete a summer reading assignment which may or may not be accompanied by a writing requirement.
2. Honors World History students will be expected to read and analyze a wide variety of texts throughout the year including but not limited to primary documents and critical, historical analyses.
3. Students in the Honors World History course can expect to be involved in discussions that aim at an informed understanding of pertinent issues, problems, and global questions. It is expected that honors students value the spirit of critical inquiry and are desirous of rigorous academic challenges.
4. Honors World History students will be required to pursue a number of independent research projects throughout the year. In addition, they will be required to read independently and bring the results of that reading to class discussions.
5. Nightly homework is a given in Honors World History. In addition, students will receive long-term and weekly writing assignments, calling upon their skills as effective writers to demonstrate conceptual understandings and higher level critical thinking.