

HONORS PROGRAM

D. C. Everest Senior High School has an Honors Program to challenge students who are above average in one or more of the following categories: intellect, interest and commitment in particular academic subjects, performing or visual arts, psychomotor skills and leadership skills.

All students who wish to be considered for Honors classes, who are not presently identified, should nominate themselves for further consideration through the guidance office.

Honors students eligible to take social studies, math and/or science were identified during their freshman year. In English, students interested in sophomore Honors classes may apply during the second semester of their freshman year.

Goals of the Curriculum

- The curriculum is compacted* and/or accelerated to provide time for enrichment, to include more elaborate, complex, and in-depth study of major ideas, problems and themes that integrate knowledge across systems of thought.
- The curriculum promotes the development and application of higher level thinking skills.
- The curriculum encourages selection and use of appropriate and specialized sources.
- The curriculum promotes self-initiated and self-directed learning and growth.
- The curriculum promotes an appreciation of knowledge for its own worth.
- The curriculum provides for the development of self-understanding to help students fulfill their potential as leaders in our society.
- *Modifying or "streamlining" the regular curriculum in order to eliminate repetition of previously mastered material and to provide time for appropriate enrichment and/or acceleration activities while ensuring mastery of basic skills. Reis, Sally M. and Renzulli, Joseph S. *The Secondary Triad Model: A Practical Plan for Implementing Gifted Programs at the Junior and Senior High School Level.* June, 1984, p. 25.

Descriptors of the Curriculum

In addition to compacting and/or accelerating learning to provide enrichment, Honors should include 75% of the following descriptors:

1. Process rather than content is a priority.
2. Creative and critical thinking is emphasized rather than acquisition of information.
3. Student projects are encouraged.
4. Use of resources beyond the classroom is a priority.
5. Independent student learning is emphasized.
6. Interrelationship of knowledge is stressed.
7. Evaluation is based on individual rather than comparative progress; there is student involvement in the evaluation.
8. Emotional growth is nurtured by developing independence and by encouraging risk-taking in creative activities.
9. Spatial and visual abilities are developed as well as verbal abilities and calculation.
10. Intuition, feeling, and imagination are valued as are logic, scientific data, and accuracy.
11. Forums, exhibits, and contests are promoted and developed for students to display their skills, knowledge, and their finished products.
12. Small groups are planned so students can work together.

It is understood that each of the descriptors is used with varying degrees in each curriculum and possibly in each course within each curriculum. For instance mathematics and foreign languages may lend themselves to acceleration whereas other disciplines, such as literature or history, lend themselves to study in depth and breadth as well as creative reflection. Although above average students are usually rapid learners, acceleration is not always appropriate for talent development.

The program and scheduling of students in the program is designed so selected students can acquire an appropriate general education and still study subjects in depth where their greatest interests and talents lie. A good general education and specialization in particular curricular areas is possible. Students in Honors have opportunities to engage in learning experiences with intellectual and creative equals as well as other learners.

Social Studies Honors Course Sequence:

Sophomore Year

Honor Students can meet their world studies requirement during the sophomore year by taking one of the following three choices: AP Human Geography, AP World History, or AP European History.

Junior Year

All Honor students can meet their U.S. Studies requirement by taking Advanced Placement U.S. History - 1 credit. In addition students may choose to take Advanced Placement Economics - 1/2 credit; Advanced Placement Government - 1/2 credit or Advanced Placement Psychology - 1 credit. AP Economics meets the financial literacy requirement to graduate.

Senior Year

Honors students need ½ social science credit and may take Advanced Placement Economics which also meets the financial literacy requirement to graduate, or Advanced Placement Government - 1/2 credit or AP Psychology- full year-1 credit or may take other world studies AP courses like AP World, AP European, or AP Human Geography if they have interest and want to use their electives.

English Honors Course Sequence:

Sophomore Year

Honors English 10 - 1 credit (see below)

Junior Year

Advanced Placement Language and Composition (1 credit) or Writing Workshop (1/2 credit) and one of the following: American Novels, British Literature, Ethnic Literature, or World Literature.

Senior Year

Advanced Placement Language and Composition (1 credit) or Advanced Placement Literature and Composition (1 credit).

English 10 Honors Registration Process

What is English 10 Honors?

English 10 Honors is a rigorous communications and literature course designed for high-achieving students. This course includes the basic content of the required English 10 course with supplementary novels and plays, all of which are studied at a faster pace and in greater depth than the regular English 10 course. Emphasis will be placed on student-initiated activities and discussions that reflect higher-level critical thinking skills. Since composition and communication are major components of each unit, it is assumed that students who choose this course have above-average competence in writing and oral communication and that they welcome new challenges.

What type of students typically succeed in English 10 Honors?

Students likely to succeed in English 10 Honors typically possess the following attributes:

- **High Achievement**—A grade of B+ or higher in previous year's English 9 class.
- **Reading Comprehension**—A minimum SRI lexile score of 1250.
- **Skills, Interests, Work Ethic, and Attitude**—The student should enjoy reading, read for pleasure, and be interested in reading classics and college-bound literature. The student should also excel in writing both creative and expository pieces, be interested in thinking and writing critically, and participate actively in high-level discussions. The student should value the study of language: word choice and vocabulary, sentence structure and fluency, grammar and usage, and other conventions.

How do I register for English 10 Honors?

To register for English 10 Honors, please send your completed Self-Selection Worksheet to the Senior High, Attention: Jennifer Rauscher, Language Arts Curriculum Coordinator, by the deadline. For a worksheet or for more information, please talk with your English 9 teacher or contact Mrs. Rauscher at the Senior High (jrauscher@dce.k12.wi.us, 359-6561 ext. 4350).

Science Honors Course Sequence:

Sophomore Honors students will be contacted through a letter sent to their homes. The sequence of courses for students interested in participating in the Sophomore Honors program is as follows:

Sophomore year

Honors Chemistry

Junior year

AP Biology

Senior year

Honors Physics & Advanced Chemistry with Physics EMN

Math Honors Course Sequence:

Sophomore Year

Algebra 2 Honors - 1 credit

Math Honors classes can be taken by students who were in Honors Geometry or with the consent of their math teacher.

Honors Independent Study Descriptors For All Subject Areas

1. For senior level students only.
2. Students must have participated in the Honors program or a comparable program in the subject area in which they want to participate.
3. Activities, product, process and evaluation will be governed by individual contracts between the independent study advisor and the student. Most contracts shall be written and signed before registration in February of their junior year. Students, who are nominated at the end of their junior year, may be eligible to take it the next semester.
4. Independent study shall be geared at Level III Enrichment as Renzulli describes it. Definition: Students investigate activities and artistic productions in which the learner assumes the role of a first hand inquirer. The student thinks, feels and acts like a practicing professional.
5. The program may result in school/business/political partnerships whereby an active professional becomes the mentor of the independent study student and works closely with the student's advisor.
6. Contracts written should specify the number of credits the student expects to earn in the independent study. (Quarter, half, one)
7. Final selection of students eligible for independent study will be dependent upon:
 - a. Previous products the student has created or produced.
 - b. Evidence in previous course work that the student can work independently and is self-directed.
 - c. An interview with the independent study teacher, the subject area curriculum coordinator and the principal. During the interview the contract and credits to be earned will be reviewed.
 - d. A grade point average of 3.75 or higher in the selected subject area.
8. Independent study will result in a product which shows use of a variety of resources, evolves from content applications, shows planning and development of objectives, lends itself to the development of tangent ideas, alternate products or elaboration of the product.

Honors Courses Available

Sophomores

English 10 Honors	English
Honors Chemistry (AP Biology track)	Science
Algebra 2 Honors	Math
American History Seminar	Social Studies
AP US History (selected top 25 sophomores)	Social Studies
AP Human Geography (prereq. Seminar)	Social Studies
AP American Government	Social Studies
AP Macro-Economics	Social Studies

Juniors

AP Language & Composition	English
AP Economics	Social Studies
AP Government	Social Studies
** Honors Chemistry	Science
Honors Physics	Science
AP Biology	Science
AP U.S. History	Social Studies
AP Psychology	Social Studies
AP Human Geography	Social Studies
AP World History	Social Studies
AP European History	Social Studies

Seniors

AP Literature & Composition	English
AP Language & Composition	English
Honors Independent Study Science	
Honors Chemistry	Science
Honors Physics	Science
AP Biology	Science
AP Economics	Social Studies
AP Psychology	Social Studies
AP Government	Social Studies
AP Human Geography	Social Studies
AP European History	Social Studies
AP World History	Social Studies

** Juniors are eligible for this course based on self-nomination and teacher nomination.