



Hays Consolidated Independent School District

Pre-AP Courses will be renamed in 2021-22 to Advanced due to the College Board trademark of Pre-AP.

The purpose of this Letter of Understanding is to provide information to parents and students and to facilitate students' success in academically challenging courses. Advanced and AP courses stimulate and challenge students to perform at an advanced academic level. Therefore, Advanced and AP coursework requires students to engage in more independent analytical reading and writing assignments, both inside and outside of the classroom. While Advanced and AP courses are open to any student wishing to enroll, parents and students should consider the extra effort required of students who typically experience success in Pre-AP and AP courses. The decision to enroll in Advanced and AP courses ultimately rests with the parents and the students.

The Advanced Placement (AP) program is a cooperative endeavor between secondary schools, the College Board, and colleges and universities. It gives high school students exposure to college-level material through involvement in an AP course, and then gives them an opportunity to show what they have learned by taking an AP Exam. Colleges and universities often grant credit, placement, or both, to students who are successful in the course and on the AP exam. Students can find colleges with AP credit policies by visiting AP Credit Policy Info. <http://www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy>.

The content and curricular goals of each AP discipline are outlined in an AP Course Description supplied by the College Board. AP courses are characterized by an immersion in college-level content, an accelerated pace, and a performance assessment at the synthesis and evaluative levels. Typically, successful AP students are task-oriented, proficient readers, and able to prioritize time effectively. The AP program prepares students for the future by introducing tools that will serve them well throughout their college and career.

Advanced courses are academically advanced courses designed to challenge motivated students to understand rigorous content. The curricula for the courses are built on the core academic curriculum following the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) expectations for each course.

Students are encouraged to take Advanced and AP courses that are appropriate to their interests and academic strengths. The number of Advanced and AP courses a student takes also varies with students' motivation, self-discipline, and available time outside of class. Pre-AP Courses are rigorous and may require extra commitment and work.

Due to the rigor, high level of expectation and preparation time required in Advanced and AP courses, students and parents must submit a signed letter of understanding at the start of the school year.

Confirmation of receipt of this Letter of Understanding will be completed by electronic signature through the online student registration process for the 2021-22 school year.

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General Course Expectations:

- Successful completion of each Advanced and AP course requires additional hours of individual study time outside of class on a regular basis.
- For a student whose grade average for the first semester is less than 70, a student-parent-teacher-counselor conference may be held to evaluate the advisability of the student remaining in the class.
- **Students are encouraged to take the AP exam** for every AP course in which they are enrolled during the 2021-22 school year. The exams are given over a two-week period in May. Hays CISD supplements the cost of AP exams. Students may also apply for additional financial assistance.
- Guidelines for grading shall be clearly communicated to students and parents. In accordance with grading guidelines, a student shall be permitted a reasonable opportunity to redo an assignment or retake a test for which the student received a failing grade. (Board Policy EIA (Local))
- Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty may be subject to disciplinary and academic penalties in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. (Board Policy EIA (Local))

Exit Policy/Process

- Attend a documented student/parent/teacher conference
- Obtain an Exit Conference Course Drop Form from the counseling office
- Attend a conference between student, parent/guardian, teacher, and principal or designee. If the request is approved, schedule changes will be subject to course availability. If a student transfers out of a Advanced or AP class, the student's grades will directly transfer to the course into which the student enters if the course is a different level course of the same subject.

Student Agreement:

In signing up for this Advanced and/or AP course, I agree to organize my time and effort to successfully complete all work in this rigorous course. I have read the course description, and I agree to the college preparatory and college level requirements and expectations of the class. I understand that I may need to seek additional help from my teacher outside of class.

Parent or Guardian Agreement:

I understand the expectations of this Advanced and/or AP course, and I agree to support and encourage my son/daughter in his/her endeavors in the course. I will notify the teacher of any concerns relating to the course or my student's progress. I understand that my son/daughter may need to seek additional help from the teacher outside of class.

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**Hays Consolidated Independent School District
Advanced (formerly Pre-AP)
Course List**

6th Grade Advanced Math
7th Grade Advanced Math
HS Algebra 1 Advanced
Geometry Advanced
Algebra II Advanced
Pre-Calculus
Advanced

7th Grade English Language Arts
Advanced
8th Grade English Language Arts
Advanced
English I Advanced
English II Advanced

7th Grade Science
Advanced
8th Grade Science
Advanced
Biology 1 Advanced
Chemistry 1 Advanced

7th Grade Texas History
Advanced
8th Grade U.S. History
Advanced
World Geography Advanced

French III Advanced
German III
Advanced
Spanish III
Advanced

Hays Consolidated Independent School District AP Course List

AP Statistics
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC

AP English III: English Language and Composition
AP English IV: English Literature and Composition
AP Seminar
AP Research

AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based
AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based
AP Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
AP Physics C: Mechanics
AP Environmental Science

AP Human Geography
AP World History
AP United States History
AP United States Government & Politics
AP Macroeconomics
AP Comparative Government & Politics
AP Psychology
AP European History

AP French IV: Language and Culture
AP German IV: Language and Culture
AP Spanish IV: Language and Culture
AP Spanish V: Literature and Culture

AP Studio Art Drawing Portfolio
AP Studio Art/2-D Design Portfolio
AP Studio Art/3-D Design Portfolio
AP Art History
AP Music Theory
AP Seminar
AP Research

AP Computer Science A
AP Computer Science Principles

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