

Honors and Academy Programs



We provide robust opportunities for high schoolers to pursue advanced and specialized academic interests — while preparing for the sophisticated curriculum of college. Scholars can apply for our Honors & Academies programs to stretch academically and stand out on college applications.

HONORS COURSES

Unlock advanced content

Many core academic courses are offered with a general and an honors track, allowing scholars to access advanced subjects and prepare for the **highest level of academic achievement**. Some honors courses offer targeted instruction to help students earn top marks on the external exam in that subject area — an honors cohort for AP Literature, for example, would aim for scholars to get 4s and 5s on the AP exam. Other honors courses provide accelerated learning so that scholars can take additional APs and advanced courses. Advanced Algebra, for example, covers **the full scope of two foundational courses** in just one year. Scholars who complete honors courses will have their course grade multiplied by 1.05.

STEM ACADEMY

Specialize in pre-med or engineering

STEM Academy is for scholars interested in delving into specialized, college-level STEM content. The **Engineering program** spans two years, with semester-long rotations in Environmental Engineering, Biomedical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering. Scholars will receive a distinction on their diploma and will be well-equipped to pursue an engineering discipline in college. The **Pre-Medicine program** is a three-year progression through Pathophysiology, Microbiology, Genetics, Immunology, and Bioethics, culminating in a senior-year capstone project with independent research. Scholars will receive a distinction on their diploma. Scholars who complete Academy courses will have their course grade multiplied by 1.10.

HUMANITIES ACADEMY

Tackle multiple Advanced Placement courses

The **Humanities Academy** offers high-performing scholars access to a comprehensive suite of AP courses. These include a study of canonical works in global literature, an opportunity to specialize in a specific period of history — Modern World History, Art History, U.S. History, European History — and an opportunity to take introductory-level college courses in Macroeconomics and Microeconomics. Scholars who have successfully completed four AP courses in the Humanities (History and English) will receive the distinction on their diploma. Scholars who complete Academy courses will have their course grade multiplied by 1.10.

WORKLOAD AND PREPAREDNESS

Practice for college persistence

Honors and Academies courses prepare scholars for the **independent, self-driven learning** they'll encounter in college. They'll need to build nightly routines, review class notes, complete the courses' reflection activities, and create their own study plans. Scholars can **expect five hours of homework a week** for each Honors & Academies class; colleges are well aware of the challenging content and workload in these courses, and take that into consideration when reviewing transcripts. On exams, fewer questions will be similar to those seen before in classwork, homework, or study guides, requiring deeper comprehension and synthesis. Approximately 30 percent of the course content is learned independently; scholars are expected to go the extra mile to take on additional content outside of class — just like in college.

APPLICATION AND REQUIREMENTS

Express interest — apply today!

All rising 9th graders can apply for Honors and Academies, submitting a short statement of interest and, if appropriate, an appeal for inclusion if their GPA does not initially meet the cutoff requirements.

Requirements for each program are as follows:

- **ELA Honors:** Minimum ELA year-to-date course average: **88**
- **History Honors:** Minimum History year-to-date course average: **88**
- **Math Honors:** Minimum Math year-to-date course average: **88**
- **Science Honors:** Minimum Science year-to-date course average: **88**
- **STEM Academy - Engineering:** Minimum Combined Science/Math year-to-date course average: **84**
- **STEM Academy - Pre-Medicine:** Minimum Combined Science/Math year-to-date course average: **84**
- **Humanities Academy:** Minimum Combined ELA/History year-to-date course average: **84**

Programs and Courses

Program	Gr 9 Courses	Gr 10 Courses	Gr 11 Courses	Gr 12 Courses
ELA Honors	Honors Survey of Great Books	Honors Canonical Works of American Literature		
History Honors	Honors Pre-Modern World History	Honors AP World History: Modern	Honors U.S. History and Government	
Math Honors	Honors Geometry	Advanced Algebra and Precalculus	Honors Precalculus	
Science Honors	Honors Principles of Biology	Honors Principles of Physics	Honors Principles of Chemistry	
STEM Academy: Engineering	Electrical and Mechanical Engineering	Biomedical and Environmental Engineering	STEM Capstone Project	
STEM Academy: Pre-Medicine	Pathophysiology and Medical Microbiology	Genetics/ Modern Medicine/ Bioethics		
Humanities Academy	AP Art History	AP World History: Modern	AP Literature: Canonical Works of Global Literature	AP Macro, AP Micro, AP European History

We welcome applications from all interested scholars. [Click here](#) for more information about our course offerings.