



Brazos High School Course Selection

Spring 2020



Welcome

Welcome Class of 2024!

- Principal – Eric Cormier
 - Counselor – Gabrielle Wertz
 - Secretary – Janette Demny
 - Registrar – Rachel Martinez
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Introduction to High School



- High School students may be in grade level specific core courses or multi-age electives
 - High School students are required to earn a specific number of course credits to move to the next grade level
 - There is no “social promotion” in High School
 - High School students must pass 5 STAAR End-of-Course exams to be eligible to graduate.
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Classification of Students



GRADE	CREDITS	CLASSIFICATION
9	0-4.5	Freshman
10	5-9.5	Sophomore
11	10-14.5	Junior
12	15 and above	Senior

Classification is based on the classes a student has passed and received credit for; not the number of years the student has been in high school.



High School Credits

High School Credits for students in grades 9-12 are awarded on a semester by semester basis.

- If a student fails a semester of a full-year course and passes the other semester, the two semester grades will be averaged together to determine whether the student has earned a passing grade for the year.

Example: 65 (1st semester) + 75 (2nd semester) = 70 avg.

Grade Point Average



- The District shall include in the calculation of class rank semester grades earned in high school credit courses taken at any grade level in the District in the following subject areas only: English, mathematics, science, social studies, and languages other than English.
 - The District shall also include semester grades earned in high school credit courses in these subjects in grades 9–12 at an accredited school that is not a District school.
 - The calculation shall include failing grades.
 - The calculation of class rank shall exclude grades earned in any local credit course.
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Weights for GPA Computations



Category

Weight

AP/Dual credit

Multiplied by 1.1

Honors

Multiplied by 1.05

Regular

Multiplied by 1



Class Rank

- All students graduating from high school shall be assigned a class rank in accordance with legal and local requirements.
 - Computation of class rank for graduation ceremonies will be done after the completion of the fifth six weeks of grade 12. Final GPA and ranking calculations will be completed following the completion of the final semester.
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Guidelines for High School Honors Courses



- Strong grades in previous coursework
 - Strong desire to excel
 - Commended level of performance on STAAR
 - Teacher recommendation
 - Completion of summer assignments(s) (if applicable)
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Exiting an Honors/AP Class



- May exit an Honors Course at the end of the 1st or 4th six weeks or at semester by submitting the signed exit form to the counselor.
 - Before a student can exit from an Honors course, they must conference with teacher and complete course assignments and/or attend recommended tutorials.
 - A parent conference will be required before exit is approved
 - The petition may or may not be granted depending on input from teacher, student performance and availability of space in other courses
 - **Exiting from an Honors course may cause you to have to exit other Honors courses because of scheduling conflicts.**
 - **In order for the semester grades in a two-semester course to be awarded a weight other than Regular weight, the student must complete both semesters of the course as per EIC (Local)**
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Dual Credit



- Students have the opportunity to take college courses while still in high school.
 - Students are able to earn both college and high school credits simultaneously. Grades received will be on the high school and college transcript.
 - Fees apply
 - *IMPORTANT: Please be aware that your grade earned in a dual credit course will follow you to college!*
 - In order to take a course you must either meet TSI standards or be TSI exempt.
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Texas Success Initiative



- Before taking college courses, the state requires students to prove they are college ready. This can be done through:
 - SAT: 1070 (500 Verbal & 500 Math)
 - ACT: 23 (19 English & 19 Math)
 - Note: Students taking dual credit courses may use the PSAT scores as well
 - Students who do not meet the TSI Exemptions must take the TSI Assessment
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HOUSE BILL 5

Overview



Graduation Overview

- 26-credit Foundation + Endorsement(s)
 - 19 specified credits + 7 electives
 - 26-credit Foundation + Distinguished Level of Achievement
 - 19 specified credits, including Algebra 2 + 7 electives
 - For ANY student:
 - Performance Acknowledgements
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Foundation High School Program

Eligible for general admission to institutions of higher education

Foundation Curriculum	Enrichment Curriculum
English Language Arts (4 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• English I *• English II*• English III• English IV	Physical Education <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 credit
Mathematics (3 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Algebra I*• Geometry• Advanced Math Course	Languages Other Than English <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 credits in the same language
Science (3 Credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Biology*• IPC or Lab-Based Science• Chemistry or Physics	Fine Arts <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 credit
Social Studies (3 credits) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• World Geography or World History• U.S. History*• U.S. Government (.5 credit)• Economics (.5 credit)	5 Electives
TOTAL: 22 credits	

*Course has an EOC requirement

ENGLISH (4 credits)



- English 1*
- English 2*
- English 3*
- English 4*
- Dual Credit English 3 1301/1302
- Dual Credit English 4 2322/2323
- Dual Credit English 4 2327/2328

*Required courses



Math (4 credits)

- Algebra 1*
- Geometry*
- Geometry Honors
- Math Models
- Algebra 2*
- Algebra 2 Honors
- Pre-Calculus Honors
- AP Calculus
- Statistics and Risk Management
- College Prep Math
- MATH 1314 (UTPB)
- Math 2412/2413 (UTPB)

**Required Courses*



Science (4 credits)

- Biology*
- Biology Honors
- IPC
- Chemistry
- Chemistry Honors
- Physics
- Physics Honors
- Environmental Systems
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Advanced Animal Science

**Required Courses*



Social Studies (3 credits)

- World Geography
- World Geography Honors
- World History
- World History Honors
- U.S. History*
- Dual Credit U.S. History
- Government*
- Dual Credit Government
- Economics*
- Dual Credit Economics
- Dual Credit Psychology
- Dual Credit Sociology

**Required Courses*



Foreign Language (2 credits)

- Spanish 1*
- Spanish 2*
- Spanish 3
- Spanish 1411 Dual Credit
- Spanish 2311 Dual Credit
- Native Speakers

**Required Courses*

Fine Arts (1 credit)



- Band 1-4
 - Art 1-4
 - Principles & Elements of Floral Design
 - (Prerequisite: Principles of Agriculture)
 - Dual Credit: MUSC 1301
 - Dual Credit: ART 1301
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P.E. Credit (1 credit)



- PE
 - Athletics
 - Band (2 Fall semesters)
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Endorsements

- In 9th grade, a student must indicate in writing an endorsement he/she intends to earn
 - Students will be allowed to choose a different endorsement at any time
 - Students may graduate with more than one endorsement
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Endorsements (26 credits)

- A student may earn an endorsement by successfully completing:
 - Curriculum requirements for the endorsement
 - 4 credits in English
 - 4 credits in mathematics
 - 4 credits in science
 - 3 credits in social studies
 - 2 additional elective credits
 - 26 credits total
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Advanced Math & Science Credits



Advanced Third Mathematics Credit (perquisites must be met)

Algebra 2/Algebra 2 Honors

College Prep Math

Advanced Second Science Credit

Integrated Physics and
Chemistry (IPC)

Chemistry/Chemistry Honors

Physics

Advanced Third and Fourth Science Credit

Chemistry/Chemistry Honors	Anatomy & Physiology
Physics/Physics Honors	Environmental Science

Additional Advanced Mathematics Credit to Earn an Endorsement (prerequisites must be met)

Algebra 2/Algebra 2 Honors	AP Calculus AB
Pre-Calculus/Pre-Calculus Honors	College Prep Math (pursuant to TEC, §28.014)
Statistics and Risk Management	

Advanced English Language Arts

English 4	Dual Credit English
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Distinguished Level of Achievement (26 credits)



- A student may earn a Distinguished Level of Achievement by completing:
 - 4 credits in mathematics which MUST include Algebra 2
 - 4 credits in Science
 - The remaining curriculum requirements; and
 - The curriculum endorsements for at least one endorsement
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Distinguished Level of Achievement



Students must earn Distinguished Level of Achievement in order to be eligible for Top 10% Automatic Admission to Texas institutions of higher education

Performance Acknowledgements



- Any student may earn a performance acknowledgement
 - For outstanding performance
 - in dual credit courses (12 hours, 3.0 GPA)
 - in bilingualism and bi-literacy
 - on an advanced placement test
 - on PSAT, PLAN, SAT or ACT
 - For earning a nationally or internationally recognized business or industry certification or license
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Course Selection

- **1. All students will take a full course load (8 courses)**
 - **2. Be certain that the courses that you are selecting fit in your degree plan. Don't be afraid to ask if you are uncertain.**
 - **3. Consider future career and educational goals of the student. Core academic classes should be chosen that sufficiently challenge and prepare the student for his/her educational plans beyond high school. It is also helpful to identify areas of personal interests when looking at elective options.**
 - **4. The purpose of electives is to enrich the curriculum. Students will be eligible for enrollment provided they have completed the necessary prerequisite requirements. Seniors needing courses to fulfil graduation requirements will be given first priority.**
 - **5. In the event that very few (less than 8) students register for an elective, the class may be dropped from the master schedule.**
 - **6. To have periods off for work, students must be in Career Preparation, must have a job, and be in good standing with credits and state testing requirements.**
 - **7. Seniors who are in good academic standing and who have completed all state testing requirements are eligible for one aide period.**
 - **8. Course selection must be completed and turned in NO LATER THAN April 30, 2020. A parent signature is required.**
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Schedule Changes

- Schedule changes will be made if:
 - 1. Student is missing a pre-requisite class and needs an alternate course.
 - 2. Student has already earned credit for the class.
 - 3. Paid fee bill for dual credit not submitted.
 - 4. Summer reading for Honors English not completed.
 - 5. Student needs to repeat a failed course.
 - 6. Student received a program recommendation by a coach or sponsor/teacher (example Athletics, Band).
Coach/Sponsor/Teacher signature required.
 - Students will not be able to drop Career and Technical courses without the approval of the principal.
 - Parent permission is required for all schedule changes.
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Freshmen Selection Options



- Language Arts: **English I or English I Honors**
 - Math: **Algebra I, Geometry or Geometry Honors**
 - Science: **Biology or Biology Honors**
 - Social Studies: **World Geography, World Geography Honors, World History, or World History Honors**
 - Foreign Language: **Spanish I or Spanish II**
 - Electives:
 - *Principles of Agriculture*
 - *Principles of Business*
 - *Medical Terminology*
 - *Principles of Information Technology*
 - *Principles of Arts, Audio/Visual & Communication*
 - *Principles of Education*
 - *Student Leadership*
 - *Professional Communications*
 - *Art I*
 - *Band I*
 - *PE*
 - *Boys Athletics I*
 - *Girls Athletics I*
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