

Honors Classrooms

Honors teachers serve the needs of upper quartile and honors students who are capable of using higher level thinking skills.

To challenge them, there must be a teacher with high expectations who possesses characteristics, skills, and knowledge, and who is competent in content area, as well as motivated to make these students competitive with other honors students applying to first-tier universities.

Keeping in mind diversity and different levels of “relevant preparation,” teachers must have training in cultural awareness, various learning modalities, and time management to make course content more interesting and informative to students. (College Board/AP)

Another component necessary for honors classrooms is appropriate use and mastery of technology to insure capability and adequate access to Internet and related resources.

Rigorous academic standards that are set by teachers can only be met by students who are prepared, both academically and emotionally. Students wishing to take honors classes must, therefore, meet 3 of the following five standards:

- **Minimum of B- in prior content specific course(s)**
- **Portfolio (E-Portfolio) of best work in content area**
- **Teacher recommendation from that content area**
- **Demonstration of significant interest in content area through experience in summer/enrichment/independent study**

Students who cannot immediately meet the above criteria are encouraged to seek entrance into an honors level class once the criteria is met.