



## **Incoming Freshmen**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **1. How many Honors courses are too many?**

- Deciding if you should take Honors classes depends on how well you do in school and if you are used to challenging classes. Your school counselor can help figure out if you are ready for the extra work Honors classes need. It is also important to think about the other activities you are doing and how much free time you will have to do homework after school.

#### **2. Should I take Advanced Placement (AP) World History or Honors World History?**

- Before selecting AP World History, it is a good idea to look at what the class is about in the Program of Studies. This class is challenging and expects a lot:
  - You will need to write like you are already in college.
  - Understand and think deeply about what you read, which will be college-level work.
  - Use what you know about world history to answer tricky questions and write essays quickly.
  - Expect to spend about an hour reading or writing every night, except for one day off each week.
  - You must be good at learning on your own without someone always telling you what to do.
  - The class moves fast because you must learn about many years of history in a school year.

#### **3. What is the Physical Education (PE) and Health requirements?**

- You need to change into your gym clothes and join in every day you have PE. Wear anything that is red, white, and blue plus your sneakers.
- If you miss PE more than twice in a marking period, you will have to speak with your PE teacher to set up a make-up session so you can get those points back.
- Also, about Health class: It is graded separately from PE and you have to pass it to graduate. The grade you get in Health doesn't affect your PE grade for the year.



4. **Once I begin a course, can I make a request to change a level?**
  - Students are asked to select a course level by the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.
  - Support is available to students. Students are encouraged to communicate with their teachers and counselors if they need additional help.
  
5. **How many electives and what courses should I consider in my freshman year?**
  - Your counselor will let you know how many electives and credits you can squeeze into your schedule. You get to select up to four different classes you are interested in. This way, if you cannot get into your top choice, you have backups ready to go.
  - You need to earn 5 credits in visual and performing arts and another 5 credits in 21st century life and careers. You will still have time to select electives that spark your interest before you graduate high school.
  
6. **If I don't like my elective, can I drop or change it?**
  - Students are asked to select an elective by the May 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. In September, students will have the opportunity to change elective courses for a different course if available in the schedule.
  
7. **How does participating in extracurricular activities impact my academics?**
  - Students who get involved in activities are good at managing their time and staying organized. This helps them keep up with schoolwork without getting overwhelmed.
  
8. **Do I have to complete any summer assignments?**
  - Yes, teachers will post their subject assignments on the school website at [www.wtps.org](http://www.wtps.org) > WTHS > Students > Summer Assignments.
  - Students are expected to complete all summer assignments by the start of the school year.