



## **Incoming Freshmen**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

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

- a. This depends on the student's academic performance and the rigor of classes they are accustomed to taking. Counselors can assist in determining the ability and work ethic necessary for Honors level courses. Also, families should take into consideration all activities in which the student will be involved and how much time will be available for coursework outside the school day.

**2. Can I waive into Honors Biology if I don't meet the course prerequisite listed in the Program of Studies?**

- a. No, students may not waive into this course if they do not meet the criteria listed.
- b. Students who earn an 85 in Algebra 1 and a 85 in CP Energy in the Environment will have the opportunity to take Honors Biology sophomore year.

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

- a. It is best to review the course descriptions and prerequisites in the Program of Studies. Here are some of the AP World History course expectations:
  - Write at the college-level
  - Comprehend and analyze college-level textbooks and readings
  - Apply their knowledge of world history to answer in-depth multiple choice and short answer questions
  - Apply their knowledge of world history to write document-based and long essay questions in under an hour
  - Read and/or write at least one hour a night for six days a week
  - Direct their own learning
  - Be willing to move at a very fast past—students must learn 10,000 years of world history in less than a school year
  - Attend approximately one or two before or after school sessions a month

**4. What are the Physical Education (PE) and Health requirements?**

- a. Students are required to get changed and to participate each day they have PE. The PE uniform is any combination of red, white, and blue along with sneakers. If students miss PE class more than two times in a marking period, they will need to make arrangements with their PE teacher to complete a make-up session to earn the points back into their grade.
- b. Health is a separate grade and a graduation requirement. It is not factored into the year average for PE.

*For high school resources please visit our WTHS Counseling Webpage:*

[www.wtps.org/wthscounseling](http://www.wtps.org/wthscounseling)



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5. **Once I begin a course, can I make a request to change a level?**
  - a. No, students must select a course level by May 1<sup>st</sup> and stay committed to their selection.
  - b. Supports are available to students. Students are encouraged to communicate with their teachers and counselor if they need additional help.
  
6. **How many electives should I consider in my freshman year?**
  - a. The counselors will explain how many electives and credits you can fit into your schedule. You can select up to three choices because they may be used as alternate electives if students cannot get into their first choice.
  
7. **If I don't like my elective, can I drop or change it?**
  - a. Students may not change an elective after May 1, the end of our scheduling advisement appointments. In September, students will have the opportunity to change a CTE or VPA course for a different CTE or VPA course.
  
8. **How does participating in extracurricular activities impact my academics?**
  - a. The counselors have found that students who participate in activities use time management and organizational strategies to balance the demands of school work.
  
9. **Do I have to complete any summer assignments?**
  - a. Yes, teachers will post their subject assignments on the school website at [www.wtps.org](http://www.wtps.org) > WTHS > Students > Summer Assignments.
  - b. Students are expected to complete all summer assignments by the start of the school year.