

High School Definitions and Icons

General Information for Concurrent Credit, Honors and AP:

Self-motivated and independent learners who are excited about challenging tasks and ideas in a subject area will succeed in these classes. Students should be prepared to spend one to two hours per week on outside-of-class assignments per course. Students may find earning an "A" to be more difficult than in other courses. No curriculum adjustments will be made to slow the instructional pace or limit the level of instruction of the course.



Concurrent Credit (Dual Credit):

Students enrolled in a concurrent credit class are taught on a level comparable to a freshman college course **using university-approved instructional materials**. In this setting, students are academically challenged and expected to think analytically, speak, and write at a college level. Universities charge fees, including a one-time enrollment fee, when enrolling in a concurrent credit course. Students are required to complete college level assignments outside of class time. Concurrent credit differs from AP courses. Concurrent credit students earn the number of credits for which they enroll, and the grade earned in the course is the grade posted to their college transcript. Most credits transfer to colleges and universities; however, as a precaution before registering for concurrent credit students/parents should check with the colleges and universities they are considering attending to confirm their policies. These courses are graded on a four-point grading scale unless it is a designated AP course in which a five point scale is used. **Please note: All concurrent credit courses are dependent upon instructor and course approvals by the local universities. A course may not be offered as listed based upon movement of staff.**

Honors: These courses follow the district curriculum but proceed at an accelerated instructional pace and include more instructional depth. Students who are successful in honors courses usually perform academically in the top 10% nationally in their chosen subject area. These courses are graded on a four-point grading scale.

AP (Advanced Placement): All AP courses follow a nationally standardized rigorous curriculum developed by The College Board. Students who are usually successful in AP courses are those who perform academically in the top 2% nationally in their chosen subject area. To receive college level AP credit a student must take the AP exam and pass it. Credits are awarded by the various colleges and universities according to the score received on the AP exam. Students/parents should check with the specific college or university to see their AP acceptance policy. There is an additional fee to take the AP exam. These courses are graded on a five-point grading scale.

IB (only available at Renaissance High School): All International Baccalaureate (IB) courses follow the rigorous IB philosophy and implement instruction and assessment that support the IB Student Learning Profile. To earn an IB Diploma, students take exams in six subject areas earning a minimum of 24 out of 42 possible points. Each exam is evaluated on a 1 to 7-point scale. Other requirements for the IB Diploma include successful completion of CAS (Community, Action, Service), the Extended Essay, and Theory of Knowledge class. Students can earn IB Certificates by passing individual subject exams without seeking an IB Diploma. There is a fee to take IB exams and a general registration fee for the tests during the senior year. Students and parents should check with specific colleges and universities to see how they reward successful IB performance. In West Ada School District, some IB courses are graded on a five-point scale.

CTE (Career and Technical Education): CTE program classes offer students applied learning opportunities that align to in-demand job workplace skills. Coursework is designed to prepare students for employment certification exams, a seamless transition on to postsecondary technical colleges, or industry skills applicable to employment readiness. Some of the essential components of establishing a CTE program is to maintain an active industry advisory board, provide state-of-art equipment and curriculum that meets industry standards, and to promote CTE student organizations, which provide students with opportunities to develop leadership skills as well as competition opportunities to showcase their CTE skills. To learn more, visit www.westada.org/CTE

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Meets the Humanities Requirement



Concurrent Credit



IB – Courses will be offered at Renaissance High School for Seniors and Juniors. See your counselor for more information.



Technical Dual Credit –See your Career & Technical Education (CTE) course instructor for full details.



Enrollment Requires an Application and Space May Be Limited



Transportation – Students must provide their own transportation.