High School Advanced Academics

9th Grade Family Meeting 2022-2023
Who are we?

Cheryl Harris
Coordinator of Advanced Academics

Nancy Shane
BHS IB Coordinator

Bill Wells
THS IB Coordinator
Our topics for tonight

- What is Advanced Academics in high school?
- What are the similarities and differences between AP and IB?
- What does IB student life look like?
- What can my student be doing to be prepared for IB?
- What does my student need to do to begin preparing for college entrance testing?
High School Advanced Academics
What are AdvAc courses?

- More rigorous than their on-level counterparts
- Designed to prepare students for success in both Advanced Placement® and International Baccalaureate® courses
- GT English
Differences from junior high school

5 periods = longer class periods
Trimester = shorter courses, different teachers
Potential time gap between course and exam
More choices and greater expectation of independence
What is AP?

Advanced Placement®, or AP, courses “enable willing and academically prepared students to pursue college-level studies while still in high school.”

The College Board is the organization that runs AP. The College Board also runs PSAT and SAT.

Source: https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap/ap-a-glance
What is IB?

International Baccalaureate®, or IB, is a full two-year program that focuses on “fostering critical thinking and building problem-solving skills while encouraging diversity, international mindedness, curiosity, and a healthy appetite for learning and excellence.”

Source: https://www.ibo.org/about-the-ib/
What are some similarities between AP and IB?

Both offer college-level pacing and complexity and require a high level of commitment from the student. Both require that students learn to manage their time and deal with challenges.
IB and AP offer potential for college credit.

Individual universities set their own credit policies regarding the number of credits to award for scores on AP and IB exams.

You can begin searching schools’ websites to find a chart with the information listed. Search the university website for AP and IB CREDIT POLICIES.

Senate Bill 111 says any student who graduates with an IB Diploma will receive 24 hours of credit at any Texas public university.
IB and AP offer Tier III Credit.

GRADE SCALE AND GRADE POINT EQUIVALENTS FOR STUDENTS BEGINNING 9TH GRADE IN 2016-2017 AND AFTER

Courses designated as AdvAc, Dual Credit, and certain selected and approved CTE courses will fall on the Tier II scale. In most cases, courses that culminate in a national or international exam, i.e. Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, and other District determined courses will fall on the Tier III scale. All other courses will fall under the Tier I scale.

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What are some differences between AP and IB?
Courses are recognized nationally.

Students choose which AP courses to take.

One, typically multiple choice and essay, exam is given at the end of each AP course.

Students may receive college placement credit for test scores.
Courses are recognized internationally.

Students complete the program during 11th and 12th grade.

Students take exams in a variety of formats for six subjects.

Students may receive college placement credit for test scores as well as for earning the IB Diploma.
What is unique to IB? Approaches to Teaching

Based on Inquiry
Focused on Conceptual Understanding
Developed in a Local and Global context
Focused on effective teamwork and Collaboration
Differentiated to meet the needs of all learners
Informed by assessment (formative and summative)
Approaches to Learning and the CORE

Thinking Skills
Social Skills
Communication Skills
Self Management
Research Skills

The IB Core
- Theory of Knowledge course
- Extended Essay
- CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service)
Start Getting Ready for IB Now!
Graduation requirements

English/Math/Science/Social Studies (4x4)
Language Other Than English (2)
Health (.5)
Professional Communications (.5)
Fine Arts (1)
Physical Education (1)
Technology (1)
Electives for one endorsement (4)
Alternative ways to earn credit

HEB ISD Summer School
IB Summer Academy
Zero-hour classes
Dual credit
IB enrollment process

1. HEB ISD has an open door policy for the IB program
2. Attend the 10th grade student IB information meeting during 10th grade (during school day).
3. Schedule and attend an individual planning conference with IB Coordinator during 10th grade.
4. Complete final enrollment request for IB during the fall of 10th grade.
5. IB is a two-year program with courses beginning in 11th grade.
College Preparation for 9th Graders
Accurate and appropriate schedule

Download the Academic Planning Guide from Counseling Department/High School Resources.

Pay attention to your schedule and make sure it’s what you need.

Take as many advanced courses as appropriate for the student.

Students should advocate for themselves if a class is too easy.
College entrance exams

All HEB ISD 10th graders take the PSAT/NMSQT (Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test) as a practice exam.

11th grade students must sign themselves up for the PSAT/NMSQT in order to be considered for the scholarship competition.
Prepare for the exams

https://www.khanacademy.org/sat
Start researching

Bigfuture.collegeboard.org
Contact us

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Thank you!

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