

## North East Independent School District

### Pre-AP and AP Program Expectations

Pre-AP and AP courses challenge and enrich motivated college-bound students to expand their education beyond the regular program. Pre-AP coursework develops advanced skills and content background to prepare students for the college-level work of Advanced Placement (AP) courses and for the Advanced Placement exams. Gifted and Talented Programs (GT), requiring specified admission, incorporate the Pre-AP and AP strategies and curriculum as well. In high school, all of these rigorous courses carry weighted credit toward computation of class rank, previously called Honors credit.

Students in these rigorous programs are expected to:

- analyze, synthesize, and manipulate knowledge and skills
- think critically
- develop successful study skills by budgeting time effectively and efficiently
- commit to a daily academic action plan
- engage in scholarly research
- extend advanced content area vocabulary
- employ technology as a tool of research and communication
- utilize community, university, and industry as resources when applicable
- maintain subject-specific portfolios/notebooks when applicable
- commit to this agreement supporting the Pre-AP/AP program and expectations

Success requires commitment from all students, parents, and teachers involved in this program.

**The teacher** agrees to conduct the Pre-AP/AP course at a college preparatory/college pace and with content appropriate to grade level as outlined by the College Board. Teachers will encourage and support students in their efforts to achieve success in this rigorous course. Teachers will notify students and parents in a timely fashion if student work and/or assessments are unsatisfactory.

**The parents/guardians** agree to support their student in organizing study time in support of class assignments. They will notify the teacher of any concern relating to the Pre-AP/AP course or their student's progress. By signing, they understand this course agreement and permit their student to participate in this rigorous course.

**The student** agrees to organize his/her time and effort to successfully complete this course. By signing, the student understands this course agreement and commits to participate in this rigorous course.

**PLACEMENT REVIEW:** Once a student commits to this more demanding course, the student is expected to remain in the class for the entire year. However, if a student is encountering great difficulty with the workload or with the higher level of thinking, reading, and writing skills required in the course, a recommendation can be made that the student be placed in a more appropriate class. Student-parent-teacher, counselor communication is required before any change is made, whether initiated by student, parent or teacher.

**ACADEMIC HONESTY:** All students are expected to do their own work. When students are given projects or assignments that must be completed outside of class, the students are expected to complete work independently unless collaboration is specified as a part of the assignment. Students will be made aware of proper documentation procedures for research-based assignments and will be expected to follow those guidelines. Plagiarism is never acceptable, no matter the source of information.

**RONALD REAGAN HIGH SCHOOL**  
**Pre-AP/AP/GT**  
**PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS**

The Advanced Placement Program® is a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. Since its inception in 1955, the Program has provided motivated high school students with the opportunity to take college-level courses in a high school setting. Students who participate in the Program not only gain college-level skills, but in many cases they also earn college credit while they are still in high school. AP courses are taught by dedicated and enthusiastic high school teachers who follow course guidelines developed and published by the College Board.

All Pre-AP/AP classes are open to every student. Students are encouraged to take as many Pre-AP or AP classes as they feel they can successfully handle. Once enrolled the student should stay in the class for the remainder of the course; however, if a student chooses to exit, provided space is available in an appropriate course, we will adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Students must stay in the class for at least the first 3 weeks of school.
2. **To exit, a parent and student must have a face-to-face conference with the student's teacher at which time they will decide if the student should stay or exit the class.** If the decision is for the student to exit, the teacher will give the student a signed printout of the student's exit grades, and the student will take that sheet to their counselor for a class change.
3. **If a student has not dropped the Pre-AP or AP class by the end of the first 6 weeks of the semester, the student must remain in the class until the end of the semester.**
4. **Final request for a course change must be approved by the Curriculum Assistant Principal.**

**EXCEPTION:**

In cases where students are enrolled in Pre-AP/AP classes and regular classes in the same subject are not offered, the student should contact their counselor immediately if they wish to drop any of these courses.