

## 9<sup>th</sup> GRADE HONORS COURSES

### Honors Literature and Composition - English

Honors 9<sup>th</sup> grade literature and composition is a rigorous course with high expectations. The curriculum covers a variety of literary and writing genres. Additional studies include vocabulary, grammar, presentation skills, the writing process, research skills, outside reading, answering open-ended questions, and EOC preparation.

All students will be required to produce research assignments, projects, and several performance tasks in order to receive credit for the course. Outside reading is required, and students will be expected to know the material. Homework/class work may include, but not be limited to, written assignments, note taking, quizzes, worksheets, peer-editing teams, individual and team presentations, skits, SAT vocabulary preparation, essay construction, library research, grammar review, SSR daily reading, etc. Participating in daily class discussions is expected and required.

**Summer Reading: Students will be expected to read the following books prior to the beginning of school. Please visit the RHS website for additional information regarding Summer Reading.** Summer reading: 1. *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros and 2. *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles.

### Accelerated Algebra I / Geometry A

The fundamental purpose of Accelerated Algebra I / Geometry A is to formalize and extend the mathematics that students learned in the middle grades. The critical areas, organized into units, deepen and extend understanding of linear relationships, in part by contrasting them with exponential phenomena, and in part by applying linear models to data that exhibit a linear trend. Coordinate Algebra uses algebra to deepen and extend understanding of geometric knowledge from prior grades. The next unit in the course ties together the algebraic and geometric ideas studied. Transformations on the coordinate plane provide opportunities for the formal study of congruence and similarity. The study of similarity leads to an understanding of right triangle trigonometry and connects to quadratics through Pythagorean relationships. The study of circles uses similarity and congruence to develop basic theorems relating circles and lines and rounds out the course. The Mathematical Practice Standards apply throughout each course and, together with the content standards, prescribe that students experience mathematics as a coherent, useful, and logical subject that makes use of their ability to make sense of problem situations.

### AP World History

AP World History provides high school students an opportunity to take a college-level history course that teaches critical thinking skills that can last a lifetime. The course will cover the six key periods of world history starting with the dawn of man and ending with modern day history. Students will be expected to complete readings from the AP text and in depth assignments involving higher order thinking skills. The assignments will include essays, critical thinking tasks and completion of notes/tests. These skills will prepare students for college level history courses. AP World History introduces in depth reasoning behind historical events.

### **AP American Government**

This course focuses on basic concepts and principles of the American political system. It covers the structure and function of the American system of government, the role and responsibilities of citizens to participate in the political process, and the relationship of the individual to the law and legal system. The course stresses critical analysis of public issue and integrates and reinforces social studies skills.

### **RHS Honors Physical Science**

In addition to strong math skills, honors physical science students must be prepared to:

1. Demonstrate a strong work ethic, scholarly behavior, and a positive attitude.
2. Think scientifically – Analyze scientific research, write procedures to labs, draw conclusions, make predictions, pose hypotheses, and defend results.
3. Complete project based assessments – Each unit has at least one lab/research project with a written report.
4. Apply knowledge – Take information from one context, relate it to another, and defend the application
5. Rise to challenges – Build a model boat, conduct independent experiments, and much more.