

Humanities Honors Courses at Idyllwild Arts Academy

About Humanities Department Honors Courses

The Humanities Department at Idyllwild Arts Academy offers honors courses in 10th grade Modern World History and English 10, 11th grade U.S. History and English 11, and 12th grade Government and Economics and English 12. **Entrance into these classes requires an application and department approval.** Honors level courses are offered for academically motivated students who want to pursue in-depth study and who are willing and able to spend extra time outside of class working independently. Honors courses are weighted and grading procedures for these courses reflect the expectation of a higher level of performance. These courses require additional reading and writing assignments. The nightly independent workload for Honors courses may vary between subject areas, but generally will be between 3-5 hours/week of work. Students are expected to manage their time to meet nightly, weekly, and long-term deadlines.

Qualities of a Learner/Basis for Evaluation

- *Very strong reading and communication (written and verbal) skills
- *Very strong problem solving ability and critical thinking skills
- *Very high engagement in the learning process
- *Exceptional ability to work independently and with groups
- *Excellent performance on classroom assessments as proven by the submittal of a graded writing sample (as required)
- *Required Placement Test with a High Proficiency Rating

Application Process and Placement Timeline:

Week of 4/4/22	Returning/current students receive application information, basis for evaluation, and expectations for Honors courses
Monday, 4/18/22 Mid-April	Returning/current student applications due, students sign-up for placement test time
4/25-5/6/22	Returning/current students sit for placement tests
Late-May/Early-June	Students notified of Honors placements for the next school year; summer reading assignments emailed
July 15	Deadline for any new student applications (if there is space available)
July 29	New students notified of Honors placement, summer reading assignments emailed

For Students, Application for Humanities Honors Courses:

- 1) Complete [this Google Form](#)
- 2) Submit a graded writing sample to Department Chair (this should be a Google Doc or PDF with teacher comments, rubric, and grade) via the above Google Form
- 3) Sign up for a placement test time via the above Google Form
- 4) Be prepared to provide grades/comments for current and former humanities coursework to Department Chair for review
- 5) You may be asked to interview with faculty member and department chair to discuss your goals for enrolling in Honors courses