

HUMANITIES HONORS COURSES AT IDYLLWILD ARTS ACADEMY



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 per week of work per course. Students are expected to manage their time to meet daily, weekly, and long-term deadlines. **Honors credit on transcripts is contingent upon completion of all honors assignments and expectations. Students not meeting honors requirements at each grade reporting benchmark may have the honors distinction and weighting removed from their transcript and grade.**

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 both independently and with groups
- Excellent performance on classroom assessments as proven by past and current English and/or history class grades and progress reports

Returning Student Application Process and Timeline

Week of April 28, 2025	Returning students receive application information, basis for evaluation, and expectations for Honors courses
May 9, 2025	Returning student applications due for review*
Late May / Early June	Returning students notified of Honors placement or provisional placement (see below); honors summer reading and assignments emailed

* Returning students may also be asked to interview with department faculty members to discuss academic progress and goals for enrolling in honors courses.

New Student Application Process and Timeline

Welcome and thank you for your interest in humanities honors classes! New student honors applications will be reviewed and students notified of placement on a rolling basis until the start of school; however, please keep in mind that honors students are required to complete summer reading and submit summer assignments on the first day of classes. To apply for Humanities Honors classes:

If you are currently enrolled in and receiving an “A” in an AP, IB, or Honors-equivalent English and/or history course:

1. Send verification of your course level(s) and current grade(s) to elatimer@idyllwildarts.org. A school or teacher letter is fine if the information is not on your transcript.
2. Complete the honors [application](#).

If you are NOT currently enrolled in and receiving an “A” in an AP, IB, or Honors-equivalent English and/or history course:

1. Please send a graded academic writing sample to elatimer@idyllwildarts.org. The sample should be an English or history essay that demonstrates your best work, not a creative writing assignment.
2. Complete the honors [application](#).

Provisional Honors Placement

For all applicants, if the Department cannot determine your readiness for honors based on your application materials or have other concerns about whether or not honors placement is appropriate for you, we may admit you to honors provisionally and determine your final placement after a probationary period.

