

Course Selection 2023-2024



Course selection is an important process undertaken in the spring semester. As you will see in the timeline below, each student will schedule an individual meeting with her school counselor and will submit her course selection sheet at that time. As we begin the course selection process, here are a few key points for consideration:

- ❖ Before making any selections, each student is encouraged to carefully review the course offerings for her grade level and remain mindful of her needs, preferences, abilities, and eligibility for courses. Students are encouraged to discuss their academic interests and educational plans with their parents, teachers, and counselors as a means of making the most informed decisions possible.
- ❖ Faculty and department approval are required for Honors and AP level courses. Faculty recommendations provide the final determination for student progression in any course, including Honors and AP level courses. Students who would like to take Honors or AP courses will need to have their course selection sheets signed by their teacher.
- ❖ Recommendations for Honors and AP level courses will be based on the student's performance in each of her classes. First semester grades serve as the prerequisite grades that are required for Honors and AP courses. In some cases, faculty may need more time to decide on student placement. If a student is within a 2-point margin of the prerequisite grade to move out of, into, or remain in an academic level, faculty reserve the right to reconsider which course level is appropriate for the student. If a delay in course level placement is determined, faculty will have until the 17th of March (spring progress report date) to render a decision. During this interim period, the teacher will conduct an evaluation of the student that may include a more comprehensive inquiry into the student's performance on such things as tests, projects, contribution to class discussions, etc., wherever applicable. In the meantime, students will meet with their counselors to begin the rostering process during their grade level's designated time.
- ❖ Any student who would like to request a move into Honors or AP or who is within the 2-point range of the prerequisite grade is required to put this request in writing via email to her teacher and school counselor. In the reassessment process, particular attention will be paid to grades on tests, not just the overall grade in the course at the end of the first semester. It is left to the professional discretion of the teacher if a student beyond the two-point spread is to be considered for reassessment. Please note, this reassessment process also applies to a student who has already been approved for an Honors or AP course, but whose grade has dropped below the prerequisite at the time of spring progress reports. Please refer to the school website for department specific prerequisites.
- ❖ Individual student meetings will assist each student by providing the guidance of her school counselor regarding graduation requirements, elective options, course level decisions, and an appropriate course load for the 2023-2024 school year.

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February 6	Students begin to receive their paper course selection sheets (according to grade level) and are invited by counselors to sign up for their individual meetings during their grade level's week. Feb 6/7: Juniors; Feb 16/21: Sophomores; March 2/3: Freshmen
	Parents receive an email from the Counseling Office inviting students and families to participate in individual meetings with their school counselor. Each grade will be contacted by their counselor in the coming weeks to schedule an individual meeting.
February 6 - 10	Information Week: Faculty take a few minutes in class during this week to discuss course offerings and eligibility
	Students begin signing up for individual meetings with their counselors
Feb 6 - Mar 13	Faculty sign course selection sheets for students who are seeking approval to take Honors/AP classes (during Community period, WIN period, before/after class, etc.)
Feb 13 - 24	Juniors meet with their counselors for course selection
Feb 27 - Mar 10	Sophomores meet with their counselors for course selection
March 13 - 23	Freshmen meet with their counselors for course selection

Additional Support and Resources

Visit Gwynedd @gmahs.org: We encourage students and parents to visit the Academics page of Gwynedd's website for departmental information about course offerings, course descriptions, and prerequisites for honors and AP classes.

Catherine Learning Program: The CLP is an academic support program for students with documented learning differences. Application and admission involve a separate process for course selection. Please contact Lisa Spleen, Director of the CLP, if you are interested in the program.
lspleen@gmahs.org

Additional Information: Parents, please reach out to your daughter's counselors or teachers if you have questions about her course options. Thank you for engaging in the process by reviewing your daughter's course decisions with her.

