



# Making Informed Choices

## Grade 9

### Arrowhead High School

### 2018-19

- Integrated Learning Experience
- 9th grade English Options
- 9th grade Social Studies Options
- 9th grade Science Options
- World Languages considerations

# Integrated Learning Experience

- ❑ Description
- ❑ Learning Environment
- ❑ Profile for success

# Description

- The Integrated Learning Experience will provide students with learning opportunities:
  - inquiry-based
  - collaborative
  - self-directed
  - long-term research focus
  - community-minded and globally-minded focus
  - focus on Social Studies, English, and Business

# Description

- ❏ The ILE Integrates English, SS and Business
- ❏ Transcript credits earned:
  - ❏ 2 credits for English 9 (Enriched)
  - ❏ 2 credits for Social Studies 9 (Enriched)
  - ❏ 2 credits for Business and Marketing

# Learning Environment

- ❑ What does an **enriched** environment mean?
  - ❑ Self-paced/self-directed
  - ❑ augmented with field trips/guest speakers
  - ❑ collaborative
  - ❑ integrated content
  - ❑ project oriented
  - ❑ technology rich
  - ❑ encourages creativity
- ❑ Meets for three periods everyday

# Profile for Success

- ❏ Students of all ability levels seeking a challenge in a unique environment
- ❏ Students are considered academically gifted/talented may find success
- ❏ Students who are self-directed, highly motivated, curious, creative, and tend to **exceed expectations** will find this environment a match.

# AP Human Geography

- ❑ Descriptions
- ❑ Learning Environment
- ❑ Profile for success

# Descriptions

- ❑ AP Human Geography is a college level course for capable Grade 9 students. Nationally, 59% of the students taking AP Human Geography are freshmen. **85% of AHS students earned college credit (potentially) by passing the year end national exam (5 year average).**
- ❑ This class is “designed to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth’s surface”.



# Descriptions

- ❏ Students are expected to take the AP Human Geography exam **in May** that includes both a 60-minute **multiple-choice** section and a 75-minute free-response **writing** section.
- ❏ Students will need to take AP U.S. Government and Politics or Political Science.

# Learning Environment

- ❑ AP courses are teacher-directed using a national curriculum.
- ❑ AP Human Geography is a college course that meets for 40 minutes a day .
- ❑ Students are expected to read and comprehend text and primary documents written at 1300 Lexile. Nightly reading is essential.

# Profile for Success

- ❑ Students who are high achieving readers [90th percentile MAP, Advanced in other Assessments, 22 ACT, 1300 L]
  - ❑ Must take Pre-ACT (more info to follow)
    - ❑ [Last year's students who passed the AP exam averaged 25 in reading on the ACT]
- ❑ Students who have found past success in the structure of school
- ❑ Students who have been identified academically gifted

# Profile for Success

- ❑ Students take direction well
  - ❑ Complete summer readings
- ❑ Students who manage their time well
  - ❑ Take only 7 courses, especially if in sports or extracurricular activities
  - ❑ Have a study hall every day rather than every other day
- ❑ Students who are in class--absent less than 3 days/semester
- ❑ Students who commit to being prepared by completing the required homework, readings, and writings
- ❑ Students who want the challenge

# Social Studies 9

- ❑ Description
- ❑ Learning Environment
- ❑ Profile for success

# Descriptions

- ❏ Social Studies 9 will appear as 2 credits on the transcript.
- ❏ Semester one is Civics focused and Semester two is Geography focused.

# Learning Environment

- ❑ Meets daily for 40 minutes
- ❑ Students learn through lecture, discussion, reading, writing and projects.

# Profile for Success

- ❑ Students of all abilities and learning styles will find success
- ❑ Focus on all levels of thinking—critical thinking and analysis
- ❑ College and Career prep

**DOES NOT REQUIRE THE  
PreACT**



# English

- English 9 Honors
- English 9

# English 9 Honors

- ❏ Description
- ❏ Profile for Success

# Description– English 9 Honors

- ❖ Pre-AP curriculum is part of the curricular framework
- ❖ Designed for students who want to take AP English courses as early as Sophomore year
- ❖ Includes analysis and synthesis of complex fiction and nonfiction text
- ❖ Speaking and Writing for a variety of purposes and audiences
- ❖ Meets 40 minutes a day

# Profile for Success

- ❖ Students who take direction well
- ❖ Manage their time
- ❖ Commit to being prepared
- ❖ Motivated to challenge themselves with complex writing and reading

Have strong background in English Language Arts (18 on English PreACT and 22 in Reading on PreACT HIGHLY recommended)

# English 9

- ❏ Description
- ❏ Profile for Success

# Description- English 9

- ❖ Students will learn college and career skills.
- ❖ Students will focus on grammar skills
- ❖ Writing and mechanics, reading, research, speech
- ❖ English 9 or English 9 Honors is required for graduation.

# Profile for Success

- ❖ Any student will find success in English 9
- ❖ No PreACT required
- ❖ Students who successfully take English 9 can take AP classes later in their high school career – (11th/12th grade)– but should consider taking British Literature in 10th grade.

# Science

- ❑ Science 9
- ❑ Science 9/Biology Honors Block



# Science 9

- ❑ Description
- ❑ Learning Environment
- ❑ Profile for Success

# Descriptions

- ❑ The Science 9 curriculum aligns foundational science skills with biology and other science courses
- ❑ An emphasis on chemistry and physics content, but the major focus is science skills
- ❑ Students will take Biology or Honors Biology in Grade 10

# Learning Environment

- ❑ Students learn through lecture, discussion, reading, writing, labs and projects
- ❑ Meets every other day for 84 minutes

# Profile for Success

- ❑ Students of all abilities and learning styles will find success
- ❑ Critical thinking skills will focus on all levels of thinking
- ❑ College and Career prep

DOES NOT REQUIRE THE PreACT

# Science 9/Biology Honors Block

- ❑ Description
- ❑ Learning Environment
- ❑ Profile for Success

# Science 9/Biology Honors Block Description

- ❑ It is an opportunity for motivated students with high ability in science to complete Science 9 and Biology during their freshmen year.
- ❑ Heavy emphasis on chemistry and physics
- ❑ Limited topics in earth and space science
- ❑ Biology topics include ecology and biochemistry

# Description

- ❑ This is a two period (84 minutes) daily block
- ❑ Science 9 Honors and Biology Honors will appear on the Transcript
- ❑ Students will earn 4 credits for the year
- ❑ These students can take Honors Chemistry, Chemistry, Physics or AP Physics 1 in Grade 10. [Note: Students taking AP Physics 1 need to be concurrently enrolled in Functions for math.]

# Learning Environment

- ❑ Design experiments and develop data collection procedures
- ❑ Use data to develop models of scientific phenomena
- ❑ Apply mathematics at a higher level
- ❑ Direct instruction, laboratory experiences, self-directed projects, inquiry-based questioning will be used



# Profile for Success

- ❑ 90th percentile on any standardized assessments in math and reading
- ❑ All students must take the PreACT test; a score of 22 in math, science and reading is the recommendation
- ❑ Strong interest in science

# Profile for Success

- ❑ Take direction well
- ❑ Manage their time well
  - ❑ Take only 7-8 courses (and this is 2 of them), especially if in sports or extracurricular activities
  - ❑ Have a study hall every day rather than every other day
- ❑ Commit to being prepared by completing the required homework, readings, writings, and laboratory reports
- ❑ Not absent more than 3 days/semester
- ❑ Want the challenge

# World Languages

- ❑ Placement Test
- ❑ Descriptions
- ❑ Profile for Success

# Placement Test

- ❑ Placement Test is March 21 at 2:15 at AHS
  - ❑ Spanish test is scheduled through Spanish teachers in our feeder schools
  - ❑ Tests are available that day for Chinese, French and German, also. To schedule, please email the teacher of the language desired. Staff and emails are listed in the *Making an Informed Choice* booklet.
- ❑ If a student places in level 2, it is not recommended to repeat level 1

# Descriptions

- ❑ The Level 1 curriculum starts at the very beginning
- ❑ An emphasis in all levels is placed on vocabulary development and language skills – speaking, reading, writing, listening and grammatical structures
- ❑ Students that start in Spanish 2 will be able to take AP Spanish as seniors and will become more proficient in the language.

# Profile for Success

- ❑ Students that pay attention during class and participate in class activities
- ❑ Students that take 10–15 minutes per day outside of class to do homework or review/study material

# Making an Informed Choice

How are parents and students  
to choose?

# Determine Readiness

- FOR AP/HONORS:
  - 90th percentile in math and reading on any of the standardized assessments used in the district 7th/8th grade.
  - Lexile of 1300–1350 (or on target for 9th grade)
  - Strong student desire for rigorous coursework (AP/Eng. Honors and/or Science Honors)



# Sign up to take the PreACT

- ❑ The PreACT December 16 or January 6 at Arrowhead High School South Campus, will be required for students who wish to select one or both of the following courses:
  - ❑ AP Human Geography
  - ❑ English 9 Honors
  - ❑ Science 9/Biology Honors Block

# PreACT Scores Predictor of Success

- ❑ AP Human Geography --looking for a minimum score of 22 in reading on the PreACT.
- ❑ English 9 Honors - 22 Reading /18 English
- ❑ Science 9/Biology Honors Block are looking for a minimum score of 22 in math, Science and reading on the PreACT

# Committing to the Choice

- ❑ Students will make their choices during the typical registration window in January and February.
- ❑ Scheduling and staffing decisions are based on students selections—be confident in your decisions, as they are not easily amended later

# Additional Support

- ❑ If students are uncertain about their match and readiness, K-8 counselors and G/T Coordinators are informed of options and know your son or daughter.

# How Do I Register for the PreACT?

- ❑ Online registration (AHS Website front page and under Parent Resources)
- ❑ Provide:
  - ❑ Name of student (Last, First, Middle)
  - ❑ Birth date (day, month, and year)
  - ❑ school district
  - ❑ address
  - ❑ email
  - ❑ phone number
  - ❑ Which date – 12/16 or 1/6?
- ❑ **Cost is \$12 (bring check made out to AHS on TEST DATE)**

# PreACT Registration Deadlines

For the Dec. 16rd PreACT – please register By December 11

For the January 6 PreACT – please register by January 2.

# Who Do I Contact With Questions?

- ❑ See the FAQ Handout for additional information
- ❑ If there are still questions, contact Sue Casetta , Director of Learning or 262-369-3611 ext. 4204 [casetta@arrowheadschoools.org](mailto:casetta@arrowheadschoools.org)

QUESTIONS?????