

Welcome to the Office of Advanced Academics!

The goal of our Advanced Academics / Gifted and Talented Team is to provide advanced learners the opportunity to receive customized instruction through differentiation based on unique learning styles, interests, and areas of giftedness.

Honors (Pre-AP)

Honors courses are offered for advanced students at the high school level. These advanced classes build on the students' strengths and prepare them for upper level/Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Honors provides students with strategies and tools needed to engage in active, high-level learning to develop skills, study habits, and concepts. Honors courses are open to all high-achieving, highly-motivated students and/or those who may have a passion in a particular curricular area.

Advanced Placement (AP)

Advanced Placement (AP) participation offers a unique learning experience with a connection to post-secondary success with special emphasis on:

- Earning college credit
- Standing out in the college admission process
- Expanding intellectual and academic skills

The primary goal of the AP Program is to enrich the secondary school experience of students ready to apply themselves to college-level courses. Pine Creek's AP courses are college classes taught at school. The College Board indicates that AP high school courses help students qualify for scholarships, improve skills necessary for college level work, and effectively compete in the college admissions process. AP participation promotes college readiness both in academics and maturity.

AP encourages critical and creative thought and fine-tunes analytical skills. AP courses teach students how to manage their time while they learn skills to successfully complete college-level work. In addition, AP classes emphasize the development of research and independent study skills. Each AP course concludes with an examination. Students scoring a score of 3 or better can possibly earn college credit. All students enrolled in AP courses are strongly encouraged to take the AP exam which corresponds with the completed course.

Additional Facts about Honors/AP Courses

- Typically offered in all disciplines for 9th–12th grade
- Teachers receive specialized training
- Courses are academically challenging
- Students receive a weighted grade in advanced classes
- Courses build on critical thinking skills, reading skills, research skills, writing skills, and advanced performance skills

Qualities of a Successful Honors/AP Student

- Excellent Attendance
- Strong Organizational and Time Management Skills
- Strong Ability to Work Independently
- Interest/Passion in the Subject Area and Ability to Grasp Concepts
- Motivated and Dedicated to School Work

Benefits of Completing Honors/Advanced Placement Courses

- Stand out in college admission process
- Possibility of earning college credits or advancing in placement in college entry level courses (guaranteed to earn 3 credits at Colorado public colleges & universities for a passing exam score)
- Better prepared academically for college
- Earn a higher GPA