

Heritage High School Home of the Coyotes



Class of 2012

Registration for Junior Classes

Welcome to Sophomore Conferences

Welcome, Introductions and Overview

- Part I – Graduation Plans
- Part II – Rank & GPA
- Part III – Course Selections
- Part IV – Family Connection
- Part V - Testing

This presentation is available online at www.friscoisd.org/heritage, see Counselor Corner.

High School vs. College

- The graduation plans are high school graduation plans, not college admission requirements.
- Always check with the college of your choice to determine if the plan meets their admissions policy.



Graduation Plans

- Recommended Program – designed for students who plan to go to college
- Distinguished Program – additional year of foreign language and completion of advanced measures
- Minimum Program – requires permission from a parent/guardian, counselor, and administrator

Academic Catalog

- The Academic Catalog has gone paperless! You can find the complete 2010-2011 Academic Guide and Course Catalog online at www.friscoisd.org/heritage.
- Graduation plans on page 12 in the online Academic Guide.
- The state is considering changes to the current programs; however, we will remain the same until we hear otherwise. If changes take place, you will be notified.

How Many Credits are Required to Graduate?

A student needs 26 credits in order to graduate. A half-credit is earned each semester for each class passed with a 70 or above average.

Juniors must take 6 classes. Students are encouraged to take a full schedule of classes to be most competitive in the college admission process.



Recommended Plan

Subject	Credits	Required Courses
English	4	English 1, 2, 3, 4
Math	4 (3 at HS Level)	Algebra I, Geometry, Algebra II, 4 th math
Science	4	Biology, Chemistry, Physics, 4 th science OR Biology, IPC, Chemistry, 4 th Science
Social Studies	4	World Geo, World History, U.S. History, Government & Economics
Foreign Language	2	Spanish, French, German, ASL* 1&2
P.E.	1.5	P.E., Athletics, Fall Band, Color Guard, Drill Team, Cheer
Health	.5	Health, Health Science
Speech	.5	Communication Applications
Fine Arts	1	Art, Theater Arts, Choir, Band, Dance, Orchestra, Elements of Floral Design (grade 10+)
Technology	1	Business Information Mgmt, CS, Desktop
Electives	3.5	
Total	26	

*ASL does not meet all college admissions requirements.

Distinguished Achievement Plan

Same as the Recommended Plan with a few additional requirements:

- Need 3rd year of the same foreign language
- Must take Biology, Chemistry, Physics and 4th Science (does not include IPC)
- Complete 4 Advanced Measures – any combination of the following:
 - Receive a 3 or higher on an AP Exam
 - Receive a B or higher in a Dual Credit Class @ Collin College
 - Achieve Commended on the PSAT
 - Receive a B or higher in a Tech Prep course
 - Participate in the mentorship program (ISM)

Rank in Class Policy

Rank in class, honor graduate status, valedictorian and salutatorian determination shall be based on a weighted grade point average (GPA) system.

Grades will be weighted according to the level of the course.

AP/PAP	<u>Dual Credit</u>	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Grade Point</u>
95	100		5.5
94	99		5.4
93	98		5.3
92	97		5.2
91	96		5.1
90	95	100	5.0
89	94	99	4.9
88	93	98	4.8
87	92	97	4.7
86	91	96	4.6
85	90	95	4.5
84	89	94	4.4

Rank Example

Use Your Semester Average

On-level English – 89 = 3.9 grade points

Pre-AP W. Geog – 88 = 4.8 grade points

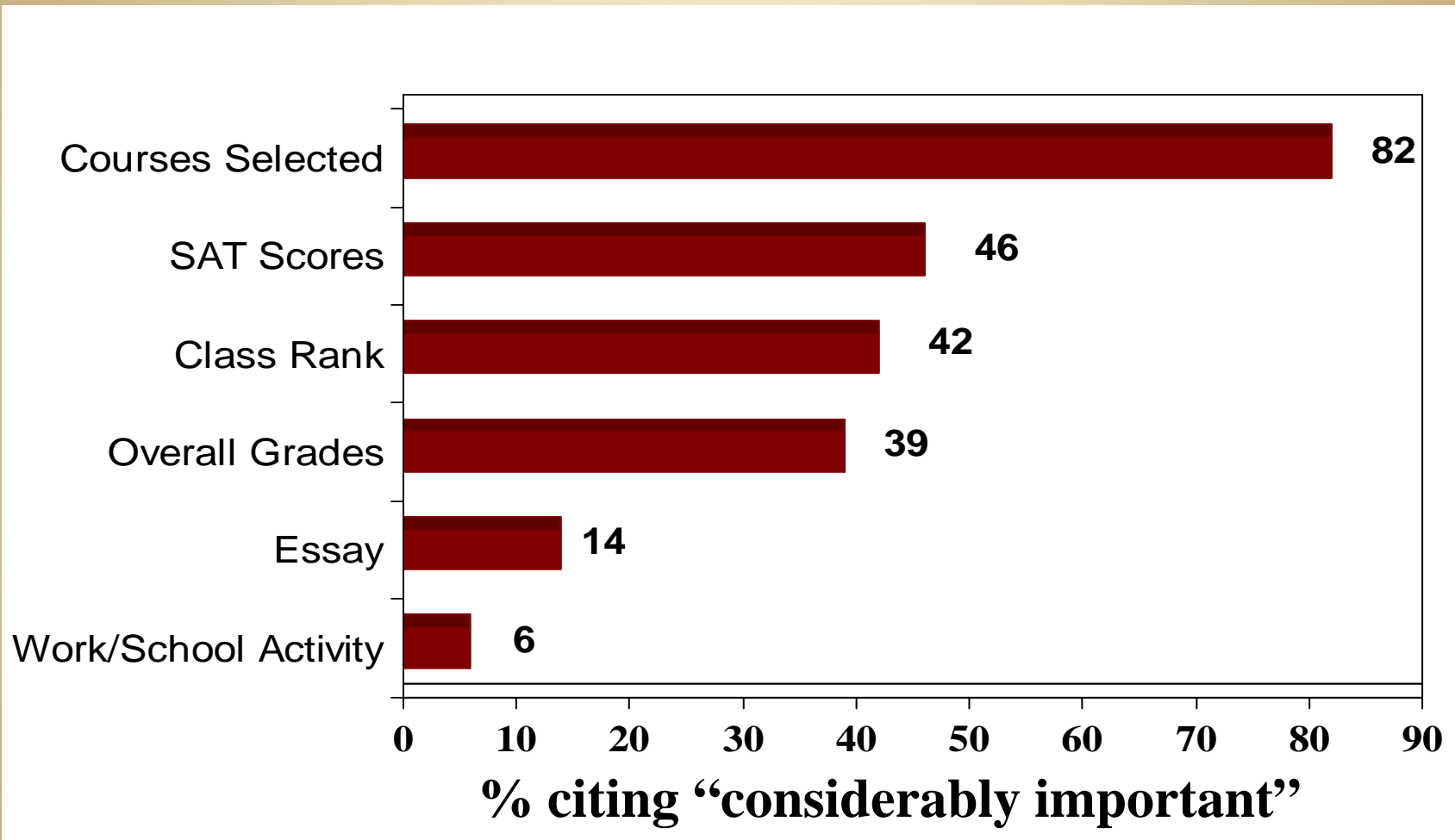
Algebra 1 – 68 = 0 grade points

On-level Biology – 79 = 2.9 grade points

Add the grade points: $3.9 + 4.8 + 0 + 2.9 = 11.6$

Divide 11.6 by 4 = 2.9 GPA

What Counts in College Admissions



1992 NACAC Survey
College Admissions Officials

Top 10% Rule

- Class Rank and GPA are used to determine if you are in the “Top 10%” of your class.
- Students who are in the top 10% of their class are automatically accepted into Texas public colleges. (UT Austin is now top 8%)
- For admissions purposes, rank at the close of junior year dictates the top 10% of the class.

What's Different About AP Courses?

- AP courses provide COLLEGE-LEVEL curriculum.
- Requires more independent work outside of class
- Take the same 3-hour AP exam at the same specified time in May as other students across the nation
- AP Exam scores range from 1 - 5
- Students scoring a 3, 4, or 5 may be eligible for college credit
- FISD Reimbursement Policy = College for FREE!

Should I Sign Up for On-Level or Pre-AP/AP in a Subject?

- Pre-AP/AP provides additional weight points and colleges like to see these on your transcript if you do well.
- Consult with your teachers in that subject area; they know your abilities and study habits best.
- Talk with your counselor and your parents.
- Pre-AP/AP schedule changes only allowed after first six-weeks grading cycle and at semester.

Course Pathways at CTE Center

- Agriculture, Food, & Natural Resources (Horticulture, Ag Mech, Animal Science & Vet Medicine)
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts, A/V Technology & Communications
- Business Management & Administration
- Education & Training
- Finance

Course Pathways at CTE Center

- Health Science
- Hospitality & Tourism
- Human Services
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Marketing
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)

More information regarding Career & Technology pathways can be found online at

www.friscoisd.org/schools/cte.

Check Your Transcript!

- This is the first time to see your transcript with class rank. Ranks will likely change dramatically in the junior year as more students take AP level coursework.
- Especially note:
 - Credits from middle school
 - Credits from summer school
 - For new students, credits from other schools

If you find a discrepancy, see your counselor ASAP!

Credit Check Worksheet on Page 15 in Academic Guide

Tonight, compare your transcript with the graduation plans on page 12 and use the worksheet on page 15 to see what you still need.

Read the Course Catalog!

Electives

- All courses listed in the chart on page 12 of the course guide are required. Any course taken, that is not listed in the chart as required, is an elective. This includes extra math, science, technology, etc. courses.

Grade Classifications

- See page 4 in Academic Guide.
- To become a junior, you must have at least 10 total credits with 6 of the 10 earned in core classes.
- This means that if you fail more than 2 classes in the core areas over the last two years, you are not promoted as a junior!

What Courses are Offered at HHS?

- Not all classes in the course guide will be taught.
- Check the back of the schedule card to see if the class will be offered here at HHS.

One Semester and Full Year Classes

- To find out how long a class meets, look on the back of the course request card.
- If the class has an * by it, it meets only for one semester and you must choose another * class for the same box.

Athletics

- All sports (football, volleyball, etc.) take up two boxes on your card.
- Circle either a 1, 2, or 3 to identify the number of years in athletics. If next year is your third year in athletics, choose a 3.

Band

- Band students may choose to single-block or double-block band.
- Write band in one box for single-blocked (marching band only).
- Write band in two boxes for double-blocked (marching band and instrumental ensemble).

Double-Blocked Classes Taught at CTE Center

- Media Technology
- Child Guidance & Management
- Practicum in Educational Practices
- Practicum in Ag Facilities
- Practicum in Horticulture Science
- Practicum in Floral Design
- Practicum in Vet Med Apps
- Animation
- Audio & Video Production
- Graphic Design and Illustration
- Practicum in Fashion Design
- Culinary Arts
- Inst Practice in Health Science

**These classes
meet for 2
periods; write
course name in
two boxes on
your card.**

Programs Needing Applications or Teacher Approval

- All CTE Center Classes (electronic application-submit online at www.friscoisd.org/cte)
- Newspaper
- Yearbook
- ISM
- Academic Decathlon
- Broadcast 2 & 3
- Student Congress
- Off-Campus PE – Contact Sally Turner

Courses Requiring Teacher Signature on Card

- Teen Leadership 2
- Intermediate Art, Theater, Technical Theater
- Theater Productions
- Oral Interpretation, Advanced Public Speaking
- Music Theory
- Rock School
- Partner's PE
- ESL Classes
- Teacher Aides/Office Aides

Special Programs

- Coop is a course that gives you credit for having a job. If you are employed, or will be in the fall, you might qualify for Coop. We have 3 different coops:
 - Practicum in Human Services – Childcare
 - Practicum in Business Management – Office work
 - Marketing Dynamics – Retail

You must work 15-25 hours per week with 10 hrs M-F. Application required.

- ISM is a research-based class that allows students who are sure of their future career goals a chance to research the career and work with a mentor in the field. Application and interview required.

Special Programs

- Practicum in Educational Practices allows students the chance to work in a school setting. You plan and teach lessons at your assigned school, much like a student teacher. Application and interview required.
- Child Guidance & Mgmt allows you the chance to work with infants and toddlers at the FISD daycare center. Application required.
- Inst Practice in Health Science (2 and beyond) is designed for students interested in nursing or the medical field. Application required.

Late Arrival/Early Release

- You can sign up for early release if you pass TAKS this spring and have enough credits.
- Not looked upon favorably by colleges.
- No rank points or credit earned.
- Write LA or ER one time (every other day) or two times (every day) on card.
- Must be off campus during scheduled time for late arrival or early release.
- Therefore, must have transportation.

Aide Positions

- Office Aide and Teacher Aide positions are limited.
- Write “Office Aide” or “Teacher Aide” on your card. Then, you must find a teacher or staff member who needs an aide to sign your card.
- Not looked upon favorably by colleges.
- No rank points or credit earned.

Early Graduation

Counselors will meet individually with those wishing to graduate early.

TAKS Classes

- Students who score 2150 or below on 10th grade TAKS will be placed in a TAKS class during 11th grade. This class will take the place of an elective.

Schedule Changes

- No elective changes, including alternates, will be made after May 14, 2010.
- Only approved program changes (in or out of athletics, band, etc) can be made the first two weeks of the new semester.
- PAP and AP students must complete the first six-weeks grade cycle before a change to on-level will be considered.

Plan Carefully

- Some classes have prerequisites. Consult the course catalog and plan your schedule carefully.
- Example of a prerequisite:
 - You must take Broadcast Journalism II before taking Audio & Video Production
- This is very important for CTE classes!

Initial Your Card Now!

- Please locate the box that talks about the policy regarding no elective changes.
- Please read that statement and initial that box now.

Typical Schedule of Core Classes for College Bound Students

- Sophomore Year
- English 2
- World History
- IPC or Chemistry
- Geometry
- Foreign language –year one or two
- Fine art or technology
- Complete PE requirement
- Junior Year
- English 3
- US History
- Chemistry or Physics
- Algebra 2
- Foreign language- year two or three
- Fine art if needed
- Technology credit if not yet earned

Junior English

Sign up for:

- English 3 OR
- AP English Language and Composition (summer reading required)

Junior Math

- If you took Algebra 1 last year and you are in Geometry this year, sign up for Algebra 2 or PAP Algebra 2 (unless teacher makes another recommendation).
- If you took Geometry last year and you are in Algebra 2 now, sign up for Precalculus or PAP Precalculus.

Junior Science

- If you are currently in IPC, sign up for Chemistry or PAP Chemistry.
- If you are currently in Chemistry, sign up for Physics or PAP Physics.

Junior History

Sign up for:

- US History or
- AP US History

Have You Finished These Courses?

- Foreign language- 2-3 years
- PE- 3 semesters
- Health and Speech
- One Technology class (Business Information Mgmt, Desktop, Computer Science, Webmastering, or Multimedia, DGA)
- One Fine Art class (Art, Theater, Choir, Band, Orchestra, Dance, Elements of Floral Design)

Back Up Classes

- Complete the alternate electives. These will be used if the student's first choice does not work.
- We will pick these FOR YOU if you don't!

Family Connection

- Family Connection is a website run by the counseling center to keep you and your student informed of upcoming events and deadlines.
- College information, scholarship opportunities, summer internship possibilities, career and personality tests, SAT/ACT links, transcript requests, class rank.
- Link on HHS website under Counselor Corner.

PSAT - The Practice SAT

How to Interpret Your Scores

Scores range from 20-80 in 3 areas:

Critical Reading / Math / Writing Skills

Perfect score = 80×3 sections = 240

Convert score to estimated SAT score by
multiplying score by 10

Example:	Critical Reading	50	SAT	500
	Math	52	SAT	520
	Writing Skills	<u>44</u>	<u>SAT</u>	<u>440</u>
	Selection Index	146	SAT	1460

PSAT - How to Interpret Your Scores Using the Score Report

- Gives the correct answer to each question
- Gives the student's answer to each question
- Tells you whether this was an easy, medium or hard question (**e**, **m** or **h**)
- For math, it gives the type tested (algebra, geometry, arithmetic, data)
- Look for patterns! What types of questions did you repeatedly miss?
- Look online at www.collegeboard.com/quickstart for other information. Your password/code is on the lower right corner of your score sheet.

PSAT - Why Take It?

- Research shows that familiarity with the test is what changes scores.
- Identify patterns and practice what you missed.
- For juniors, the PSAT identifies National Merit Semifinalists, the top 1/2 of 1% of testers in each state.
- In Texas last year the NMSQT cutoff score was 215 for semifinalists and 200 for commended scholars.

PLAN - The Practice ACT

- **English**
 - Usage/Mechanics
 - Rhetoric Skills
- **Mathematics**
 - Pre-Algebra/Algebra
 - Geometry
- **Reading**
 - Prose/Humanities/Social Sciences
- **Science**
 - Content: Earth/Space Sciences/Chemistry/Physics
 - Format: Data Representation
 - Research Summaries
 - Conflicting Viewpoints

PLAN - How to Interpret Your Scores

- Available only to 10th Grade during Fall Semester
- Score ranges from 1 - 32
- Composite Score is the overall total average
- “College Bound 10th” gives your percentage rank compared to all PLAN test takers nationally
- “Estimated ACT Composite Score Range”
- PLAN tops out at 32 (ACT scores range 1-36)

PLAN - How to Interpret Your Scores

- Gives the correct answer to each question
- Gives the student's answer to each question
- Gives the type of skill tested
- Tells you student-specific skills to practice based on the types of questions missed

College Admissions Testing

- PSAT – October 2010 (Juniors must sign up and pay the fee)
- SAT and/or ACT – Spring 2011
 - Sign up for SAT @ www.collegeboard.com
 - Sign up for ACT @ www.act.org
 - Scores for college admission must be requested from testing agency
 - Four for FREE!
 - Fee Waivers

NCAA

- Being recruited by Division I or II colleges?
 - Student should sign up with NCAA end of junior year
 - Reminder that credit by exams will not count toward meeting NCAA requirements
 - Notify counselor if you plan to participate in Division I or II collegiate athletics

Community Service

- Community service is not a requirement for graduation, but it does enhance a college application.
- Students are responsible for finding and keeping up with all hours earned.
- Forms are available on Family Connection and in the Counseling Center. Students turn in a copy each time hours are earned; students must keep a copy for their records.
- Students who earn 100 hours or more by April 1 of graduating year will be recognized with a special cord at graduation.

Thinking of Summer School???

- The following courses will be offered in summer school for advancement:
 - Business Information Mgmt (1 credit)
 - Health (.5 credit)
 - Communication Applications (.5 credit)



Be checking the website for more details.

****Can take up to 1 full credit in summer school.****



Dates to Remember

- February 18th – Cards due back to HHS
Counseling Center
- April 2010 – Verifications will be mailed home
- May 14, 2010 – Last day for elective changes
- August 2010- Schedule Pick-Up. You will receive a summer mailing with dates and times.

HHS Counselors

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