



Eleanor Roosevelt High School

411 East 76th Street • New York, NY 10021 • Tel: 212.772.1220 • Fax: 212.772.1440
 Dimitri Saliani, Principal www.erhsnyc.org

Academic Planning for the 2019-20 School Year

DO'S AND DON'TS... WHEN SELECTING YOUR COURSE OF STUDY

Do's ☺	Don'ts ☹	Rationale •
Do consider continuing in advanced courses in your subject of interest .	Don't consider courses haphazardly for the sake of "trying new things."	<i>Studying a subject in depth is rewarding and demonstrates commitment.</i>
Do consider the time commitment required for a course.	Don't consider the time of day during which the course is currently scheduled.	<i>Be realistic about what you can commit to; don't be stuck on a schedule that may change.</i>
Do consider the level of independent work required for a course.	Don't assume rigorous course material will be accessible without you doing your part.	<i>The most rigorous courses require that you work independently – be honest about whether you are ready for it.</i>
Do consider a course because of the content and skill sets addressed.	Don't consider a course because you like the teacher or students you think will be in the class.	<i>Content and skills remain the same, but teachers and students change.</i>
Do consider courses that will be challenging .	Don't underestimate your ability to overcome challenges!	<i>Being challenged keeps you motivated.</i>
Do consider a robust schedule that goes beyond fulfilling basic requirements.	Don't fill your schedule with study hall periods.	<i>Set high standards! Full and empty schedules say very different things about you.</i>
Do consider a variety of course selection options.	Don't limit your course selection options.	<i>Course offerings are contingent upon constraints and interests.</i>
Do browse course websites on erhsnyc.org.	Don't rely on one source of information.	<i>Do your homework – research the wealth of resources available to you.</i>
Do self-advocate and seek out support.	Don't wait for someone to initiate the support.	<i>When you have a question, ask. If you are not ready to seek out support, some courses will not be right for you.</i>
Do consider advice from your peers, families, and teachers about your course selection options.	Don't let your peers, families, and teachers make your course selections for you.	<i>It's your education! You know yourself best and what you are willing to do.</i>

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Academic Planning for the 2019-20 School Year ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) FAQ'S

What is AP? AP stands for Advanced Placement. AP is a curriculum endorsed by the College Board that culminates in sitting for an Advanced Placement exam in May. High scores on an AP exam can lead to earning college credit or placing out of certain prerequisites in college, depending on the credit policy of the college.

How do I know if I should request an AP course for next year? AP course enrollment should be an indication that you are truly passionate about the subject. If you are so interested that you would be excited to have several hours per night of independent, challenging work in that subject, you may be a good fit for an AP course. You will also be asked to think critically (not just read or solve problems), analyze content, and practice skills at a higher-level independently without explicit instructions from your teacher. Keep in mind, it is possible to take an AP course and earn a low grade. Colleges want to see students taking the most challenging courses they can handle AND earning strong grades in those courses.

How can I take an AP course? Each spring students are presented with the course offerings at EIRo. They are then given the opportunity to indicate their preference of courses. The faculty and staff then evaluate candidates for AP courses on the basis of: attendance, overall GPA, subject specific GPA, and potential to succeed in an AP level curriculum. If a student is not approved for an AP course, there is an appeal process, but final AP course enrollment is at the discretion of the school. AP courses have a limited number of seats and not every request will be able to be accommodated.

What are the benefits of AP? AP classes move at a faster pace than a traditional high school class. They have more homework and demand a greater time commitment. AP classes require a higher level of critical thinking and are equivalent to introductory college level classes. Because of this, a strong foundational background in the subject is necessary. You are not just asked to work harder, but to *think* harder and work more independently. AP course grades are weighted by a factor of 1.05 on academic records. Some colleges also grant credit for high scores on the AP exam.

What are the drawbacks of AP? An AP course is a tremendous commitment. Students should be prepared for the course to move very quickly through the curriculum topics with minimal review time built into class. Students who succeed tend to be self-directed learners. If your stress level is high, you are earning low grades, or you need a lot of additional support, you should be thoughtful about whether AP is right for you.

How many APs can I take? EIRo policy traditionally limits AP enrollment to two AP courses per year. Occasionally, programming allows for a very small number of students to be approved for a third AP course, but as a small school, offering a large catalogue of courses is very uncommon. Colleges have a copy of our school profile that explains this very clearly so they understand that we do not believe in students taking too many AP courses at a time. Philosophically, we do not believe that it is healthy or beneficial for a student to be overloaded with AP courses, particularly since all EIRo courses are taught at a high level. To learn more about the philosophy of limiting AP enrollment, see this "Turning the Tide" report from the Harvard School of Education: http://mcc.gse.harvard.edu/files/gse-mcc/files/20160120_mcc_ttt_execsummary_interactive.pdf?m=1453303460

If I take the AP course at EIRo, do I have to take the AP exam? Yes. You commit to taking the exam when you enroll in the course.

How much does the test cost? In 2019, it cost \$94 per exam. The College Board provides a fee reduction per exam for students with financial need.

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Academic Planning for the 2019-20 School Year CONTACTS AND SAMPLE QUESTIONS

*For self-advocacy related questions, contact **advisors**.*

- ☞ How do I approach my English teacher about improving my essay organization skills?

*For content-related questions, contact **subject teachers**.*

- ☞ Will I have difficulties in Ceramics if I have no background in art?

*For scheduling-related questions, contact **Mr. D'Amico, Programmer**.*

- ☞ Is it possible to take two PE classes?

*For graduation-related questions, contact **Ms. Damesek, AP or Ms. Bernstein, Guidance Counselor**.*

- ☞ Do I need to take the LOTE exam if I passed the Spanish Proficiency in middle school?

*For college-related questions, contact **Ms. Kleiman, College Counselor**.*

- ☞ Will colleges notice that I took Discrete Math even though I wasn't required to?

IMPORTANT DATES

Week of March 4

- ☞ Academic Planning Lessons in Advisory
- ☞ Family - Teacher Conferences

Week of March 11

- ☞ Complete Course Preference Form in Advisory (9th and 10th Grade Students)
- ☞ Complete Course Preference Form independently (11th Grade Students)

Weeks of March 25 and April 18

- ☞ One-on-One Course Preference Review Conference in Advisory/Study Hall/Lunch

May 3

- ☞ Preliminary 2019-2020 Course List available

Week before School Begins

- ☞ 2019-2020 Course Schedule available on Pupilpath.
- ☞ Course Change Request** Form available.

Second Week of School

- ☞ Deadline to submit Course Change Request.*

** All forms are available online, accessible through erhsnyc.org. You will need your erhsnyc.net log-in to submit the forms. **Deadlines are final and will not be extended.***

*** Only requests for missing required courses and course level corrections are guaranteed. Many courses are enrolled to maximum capacity and may not have seats available. Course meeting times may conflict.*

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Sequence of Required Courses and Elective Options (Revised 3.5.2019) *Culminates in a Regents examination

	9 th Grade	10 th Grade	11 th Grade	12 th Grade
ENGLISH REQUIREMENT	Global Literature 9	Global Literature 10	American Literature* or AP English Literature	English 12 or College English
FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT	French I / II Spanish I / II	French II / III* Spanish II / III*	French III* / IV Spanish III* / IV AP Spanish Literature	Spanish IV French IV AP Spanish Literature
PHYSICAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT	Physical Education 9 and Health 9	Physical Education 10	Lifetime Fitness or Team Sports or Weight Training and Conditioning or Yoga or Zumba	
SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS (STEM) REQUIREMENT	Living Environment * and Common Core Algebra 1 * or Geometry*	Chemistry* and Geometry or Algebra 2*	Physics* and Pre-Calculus or Algebra 2 *	Science Psychology Sports Medicine AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics C: Mechanics Tech AP Computer Science Principles Audio Science Automotive Engineering Robotics/Artificial Intelligence Math Calculus Discrete Math Pre-Calculus AP Calculus AP Statistics
SOCIAL STUDIES REQUIREMENT	Global Studies 9	AP World History*	AP US History*	Economics and Finance and Participation in Government
ARTS ELECTIVE OPTIONS	Acting/Filmmaking Animation I Beginning Guitar Concert Band Digital Photography I Visual Art I	Acting/Filmmaking Animation I/II Beginning Guitar Advancing Guitar Concert Band Symphonic Band Digital Photography I/II Visual Art I/II	Acting/Filmmaking Animation I/II Beginning or Advancing Guitar Symphonic Band Advancing Musicianship Digital Photography I/II Visual Art I/II Ceramics I/II Studio Art AP Art History	
NON-ARTS ELECTIVE OPTIONS	Computational Thinking Automotive Engineering	Computational Thinking Automotive Engineering	Automotive Engineering Creative Writing Discrete Math History Through Film Public Speaking Robotics/Artificial Intelligence AP Biology/AP Chemistry AP Computer Science Principles AP English Language AP Statistics	Automotive Engineering Creative Writing History Through Film Public Speaking Psychology AP Comparative Govt AP English Language AP Macroeconomics *****Peer Leadership (Sibs) is in addition to your electives, it does not replace one.

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