

# GERMANTOWN MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

The Germantown Municipal School Board believes in establishing educational learning opportunities that align with students' ability levels. Student transcripts should be an authentic academic record that employers, colleges and universities, military branches and technical schools should be able to assess with a strong degree of confidence that GMSD graduates are college and career ready.

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<b>Revision History</b> August 18, 2014
<b>Review</b> Annually in June

**Each school will develop procedures to guide students, parents, and guidance counselors in making decisions for course placement based on the best interest of the student.**

~~Choosing courses of a more rigorous caliber will require the following:~~

- ~~• A student may take an Honors or Advanced Placement Course upon successful completion of a prerequisite course with a "C" average.~~

Should a student encounter difficulty in making adequate progress in an Honors or Advanced Placement Course, the following procedures should be followed:

- Student-Teacher consultation on ways to improve.
- Parent-Student-Teacher-Counselor-Administrator consultation to develop a plan of action.

Approval in dropping the course is at the discretion of the school principal. Multiple factors, including if there is space available in the requested new course, need to be taken into consideration before such an allowance is granted.

## Advanced Placement/Dual Enrollment

The school board will approve Advanced Placement (AP)/Dual Enrollment (DE) courses annually. The list of AP/DE courses will be made available to all Germantown Municipal School students. AP/DE courses must substantially incorporate the learning objectives and course descriptions as defined by the AP College Board. Students will be granted an additional 5 points quarterly on their final grade for their efforts.

## Honors Courses

Students who successfully complete a high school honors course will be given 3 additional points to their quarterly averages for their efforts in accepting the challenges of a faster paced, more in-depth course that requires extended reading assignments, research based writing assignments, projects that have real-life applications, open investigations that are student driven and research based, differentiated writing assignments that include narrative, descriptive, persuasive, expository, and expressive styles, the use of technology to support the topic, problem solving experiences that call for critical analysis, creativity and application, and possible job shadowing experiences.

## Dual Credit

**Statewide Dual Credit courses provide academically challenging high school courses that are aligned to postsecondary standards. Students can earn credit to any public postsecondary institution in Tennessee if they meet or exceed the established cut score on the state challenge exam. Students will be granted an additional 4 points to their quarterly average.**

Technical courses that offer a National Industry Certification through a nationally recognized examination will be considered as honors courses.

All honors courses will substantially exceed content standards, learning expectations, and performance indicators as approved by the State Board of Education. Instructional approaches by teachers will facilitate maximum interchange of ideas amongst students that include independent study, self-directed research and learning. Assessments will include open-ended constructed responses, performance based tasks, creative interpretations, and authentic products as portfolios and analytical writings.

#### References/Authority

Tennessee State Board of Education Rule – 0520-01-03-.05