

# WHY SHOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN OPEN ENROLLMENT HONORS COURSES IN MIDDLE SCHOOL?



## CHALLENGE YOURSELF!

Open enrollment honors courses in FCPS provide opportunities for students to go beyond course standards in a specific subject(s).

- Pick areas where you feel you have a strength or interest!
- Push yourself to develop new skills and expertise!
- Experience a new challenge!

## EXPLORE YOUR PASSIONS AND DEVELOP YOUR TALENTS!

Open enrollment honors courses help talent development for all students.

- Get personal support for success!
- Dive deep into subjects you enjoy, from literature to science to history.
- Self-assess and celebrate your own growth!



## LEARN IN ENGAGING WAYS!



Open enrollment honors courses focus on expertise and deeper learning.

- Go beyond grade level standards!
- Engage in “deeper thinking” advanced academic curriculum and strategies.
- Collaborate more with peers!
- Focus on the process of learning: Inquiry, design, revision and sharing!

## TAKE OWNERSHIP OVER YOUR LEARNING!

In open enrollment honors courses you’ll experience:

- **A different structure and pace!** Some lessons may be compacted or move faster to allow for more time to do hands-on projects and activities!
- **More independence and autonomy** in your learning, giving you the freedom to explore your interests and be in control of your learning!



## WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

Share your interests in taking honors courses with your parents, school counselor & teacher!

# CONSIDER SOME OF THESE REASONS TO TAKE HONORS CLASSES:

(use this as a checklist before you meet with your counselor!)

## HONORS SOCIAL STUDIES

### Do you enjoy...

- Learning about different time periods, important figures, and how societies have developed over time?
- Analyzing materials to understand different perspectives and draw conclusions?
- Forming your own opinions, debating ideas, and defending your viewpoints with evidence from history?
- Making connections between the past and current events, and understanding how history shapes the world today?
- Discussing how issues impact different societies and cultures around the world?
- Conducting research on historical events, social issues, and/or significant figures to answer questions and deepen understanding of complex topics?

## HONORS ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

### Do you enjoy...

- Reading a variety of genres, including fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and plays?
- Crafting essays, stories, and analytical responses?
- Engaging in thoughtful discussions about the texts that you read? This can include forming and defending your own opinions, considering multiple perspectives, and asking probing questions.
- Diving into the deeper meaning of texts, looking beyond surface-level plot points to explore symbolism, themes, and author intent?
- Taking initiative in your learning, whether through researching topics of interest, completing independent research, or working on long-term projects?

## HONORS MATH

### Do you enjoy...

- Using strategies like step-by-step thinking or creative problem-solving techniques (like engineers do)?
- Asking deep questions to better understand or improve the reasons behind answers or solutions?
- Using known math strategies or rules to help solve new problems?
- Understanding the limits of your solution and knowing when it works and when it doesn't?
- Turning real-life situations into math problems and understanding what the numbers and symbols mean?
- Researching and finding the right tools to solve a new or unfamiliar problem?

## HONORS SCIENCE

### Do you enjoy...

- Conducting investigations through experimentation and observation?
- Solving problems and thinking critically to figure out solutions to complex challenges?
- Reading scientific articles and other resources to expand your knowledge?
- Discussing scientific ideas with others?
- Thinking about how science impacts society and how scientific concepts can be used in everyday life?
- Breaking down complex ideas and applying logic to understand scientific phenomena?

**IF YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT ANY OF THESE, THEN HONORS IS FOR YOU!**

Share your interests in taking honors courses with your parents, school counselor & teacher!