

# Spring Branch ISD **parent** @

**Advanced Academic Courses (AAC), Advanced Placement (AP), Dual Credit - Understanding Advanced Courses**

**Presenter:**

**Amy Ellingson**

**SBISD Advanced Academic Studies**

Inspiring minds.  
Shaping lives.



Spring  
Branch

Independent School District

# **Parent U: Preparing for the Future with Advanced Coursework**

**Amy Ellingson, Facilitator for  
Advanced Academic Studies**

**<https://linktr.ee/AdvancedCourses>**

# Topics for Today

- ★ Why Take Advanced Academic Classes?
- ★ What's the Difference?  
AP/DC/DE/IB
- ★ How to Support your Student



# **WHY TAKE ADVANCED ACADEMIC COURSES?**

*Inspiring minds.  
Shaping lives.*

# The Path Toward College

- ★ Advanced Academic Courses (AAC) courses prepare students for high school AP and Dual Credit courses
- ★ AACs prepare students for the rigors of college, where the intense work catches many college freshmen by surprise
- ★ Advanced Academic courses help improve student writing skills, problem-solving techniques, and study habits.

# Expanding Student Options

- ★ Introduces students to the challenge of college level courses
- ★ College level credit being earned
- ★ Faster entrance to upper-level college courses.
- ★ Expand academic interests

# Who Takes Advanced Classes?

- ★ Anyone who chooses the challenge
- ★ SBISD has a commitment to open access
- ★ GT Students
- ★ Students that enjoy an intellectual challenge

# College Admissions

- ★ Students evaluated based on courses available at their High School.
- ★ Students compared between like high schools.
- ★ AP Course grade vs. AP Test Score Results
- ★ Strength of course selection over time.



# Time and Money

- ★ Students that take advanced courses in HS are more likely to complete a college degree on time.
  - ◆ Only 1 in 4 college students complete a bachelor's degree in 4 years.
- ★ Graduating in four years represents significant savings on tuition.

**AP/DC/IB/DE...**  
**OH MY!**



# COURSE CATALOG

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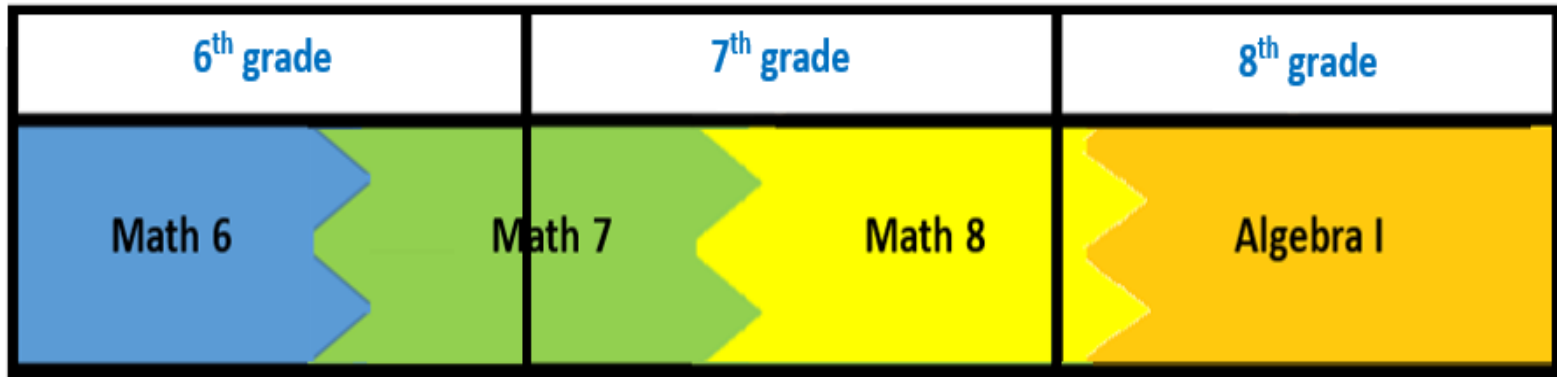
# **Advanced Academic Courses** *(previously Pre-AP)*

- ★ Beginning step in the AAC program
- ★ Offered in 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> grade
- ★ AAC courses add strategies to prepare students for AP and other advanced courses
- ★ Helps improve writing skills, problem-solving techniques, and study habits.

# Middle School Math Course Sequences

6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
<b>No Acceleration</b>						
6 <sup>th</sup> Math	7 <sup>th</sup> Math	8 <sup>th</sup> Math	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Adv. Math
<b>One Year Acceleration</b>						
6 <sup>th</sup> AAC/GT	7 <sup>th</sup> AAC/GT	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus
<b>Two Year Acceleration</b>						
7 <sup>th</sup> AAC/GT	Algebra I	Geometry	Algebra II	AP Statistics	Pre-Calculus	AP Calculus

# One Year Acceleration – Curriculum Sequence



Eligibility: Students should be at “meets expectations” on 5<sup>th</sup> grade STAAR

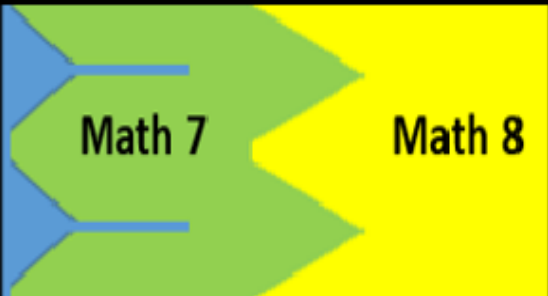


Choose on course selection form

STAAR test – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

Algebra In 8<sup>th</sup> grade

Geometry in 9<sup>th</sup> or summer school before 9<sup>th</sup>

# Two Year Acceleration – Curriculum Sequence

6 <sup>th</sup> grade	7 <sup>th</sup> grade	8 <sup>th</sup> grade
 Math 7      Math 8	 Algebra I	 Geometry

Eligibility: Two Options:

1. Summer Jump Start Program
2. Credit by Exam for 6<sup>th</sup> grade math

STAAR test – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

Algebra In 7<sup>th</sup> grade with End of Course exam  
Geometry in 8<sup>th</sup>

# Advanced Academic Courses

Move at a faster pace

- ★ Require more independent learning
- ★ Require more homework
- ★ Stretches intellectual muscles
- ★ Be cautious about packing a schedule



# Advanced Academic Courses

- ★ Designed by SBISD curriculum teams to add depth critical thinking strategies.
- ★ Designed to engage students
- ★ Do not have end of year standard exam.
- ★ Not overseen by College Board.
- ★ AACs are weighted.

# Weighted Courses?

- ★ GPA is averaged based on students grades in their High School Classes
- ★ Students can only have 4 weighted courses per year; 1 in each of the 4 core areas. (math, science, English, science)

Regular Courses	Weighted Courses
A= 4 points	A = 5 points
B = 3 points	B = 4 points
C = 2 points	C = 2 points

# Advanced Placement (AP®)

- ★ Course frameworks and standards developed by the College Board.
- ★ Teacher must submit a course syllabus to be approved yearly.
- ★ School maintains a roster of their approved courses.
- ★ Standard exam offered at the end of each year (optional)

# Advanced Placement (AP)

- ★ Rigorous, college-level coursework for high school credit
- ★ Students prepare for and take AP exams
- ★ Colleges use AP exam scores to award college credit
- ★ SBISD instructors
- ★ Open access to SBISD students
- ★ Exam primarily paid for by parent

# Which AP Course are Offered?

- **Arts:** Art History, Music Theory, Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio, Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio, Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio
- **English:** English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition
- **History and Social Sciences:** European History, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, US Government & Politics, US History, World History
- **Mathematics:** Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics 1 & 2, Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism, Physics C: Mechanics, Computer Science
- **World languages:** French, German, Italian, Spanish Language, Spanish Literature
- **AP Capstone Program and Diploma (SHS and SBAI)**

# International Baccalaureate (IB)

- ★ Only offered at Westchester Academy (WAIS)
- ★ IB exams take place Junior and Senior year
- ★ Students have the option to graduate with an IB diploma
- ★ Teachers go through content and model specific training to follow IB standards
- ★ Colleges use IB exam scores to award college credit
- ★ Exams are mainly paid for by parents

# Dual Credit (DC)

- ★ Students earn HS credit and college credit at the same time by completing Houston Community College (HCC) Courses.
- ★ 3 College credit hours earned and placed on college transcript (HCC) when student passes the class.
- ★ Transferrable in Texas
- ★ Must meet college-readiness standards via the PSAT, SAT, ACT, or via a STAAR EOC waiver.

# Dual Credit (DC)

- ★ SBISD instructors embedded at SBISD campuses.
- ★ Taught at the high school or at the HCC campus.
- ★ Courses vary by campus
- ★ Tuition paid by SBISD
- ★ Students purchase textbooks
- ★ DC courses are weighted



# Dual Credit (DC)

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### HCC Dual Credit Courses

**2021-2022**

SBISD Course	SBISD Course Number	College Course	Early College Program	Weight	Campus-Based	College Credits
English III	EL13D A/B	ENG 1301/1302	AOC, MHS, NHS, SWHS, SHS, WAIS	Yes	SHS	3/3
English IV	EL14D A/B	ENG 1301/1302		Yes	MHS, SHS	3/3
	EL24D A/B	ENG 2322/2323				
US History	SS12D A/B	HIS 1301/1302		Yes	SHS	3/3
Government	SS217D	GOVT 2305		Yes		3
SS Topics	SS218D	GOVT 2306				3
Economics	SS227D	ECO 2301		Yes		3
Psychology	SST31D	PSYCH 2301				3
Sociology	SST32D	SOC 1301				3
Communications Applications DC	ELA51D	Speech 1311				3
Public Speaking	ELA51D	Speech 1315				3
Biotechnology I	CST11 A/B	BIO 1308/1309		Yes	MHS, SHS	3/3
College Transition	AD501D	EDUC 1300				3

# OnRamps – Concurrent Enrollment

- ★ Students earn HS credit while potentially earning college credit while in HS.
- ★ Students receive HS credit when they complete the course
- ★ Students may choose to accept the 3 college credit hours if they pass the college portion of the course.
- ★ SBISD teacher teaches HS portion
- ★ College instructor leads the distance learning.

# OnRamps – Concurrent Enrollment

- ★ Students enrolled in the SBSID course and the UT course.
- ★ Same assignments
- ★ Separate gradebooks and grades.
- ★ OnRamps tuition fees are paid by SBISD
- ★ Courses vary by campus
- ★ OnRamps courses are accessed through Canvas
- ★ OnRamps courses are weighted

# OnRamps

## OnRamps Courses 2021-2022

OnRamps Course	High School Short Description	High School Course Number	Weight	Campuses Offering 2019-2020	College Credit Awarded
English	ENG III DE	EL13E A/B	Yes	MHS, SHS	3 hours credit Fall and 3 hours credit Spring
English (same college class as Juniors; only for seniors who did not do Dual Credit/Enrollment English as juniors)	ENG IV DE	EL14E A/B	Yes	MHS	3 hours credit Fall and 3 hours credit Spring
U.S. History	US HIST DE	SS11E A/B	Yes	MHS, SHS, NBHS, SWHS	3 hours credit Fall and 3 hours credit Spring
Chemistry	Chemistry DE	SC216 A/B	Yes	SHS	Full year course. 4 hours credit award in Spring
Computer Science	COMP SCI 1 DE	TA31E A/B	No	SWHS	Full year course. 3 hours credit award in Spring
Statistics	STATISTICS DE	MT51E A/B	Yes	SWHS	
PreCalculus	PRE CAL DE	MT40E A/B	Yes	SWHS, NBHS	
Geo Science	EARTH & SP DE	SC81E A/B	Yes	SHS	
College Algebra	Algebra II DE	MT23EA/B	Yes	SHS	

*DE = Dual Enrollment; all these courses are "D" course type*

# Handout in the LinkTree



## AP/Dual Credit/Dual Enrollment/IB

Knowing the difference between Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, Dual Credit, and Dual Enrollment courses will assist you in planning for both high school and college courses.

	Advanced Placement (AP)	Dual Credit (DC)	UT OnRamps Dual Enrollment (DE)	International Baccalaureate (IB)
Description	The AP program allows students to take college-level courses and to earn college credit or placement while still in high school.	Dual credit allows students to earn high school and college credit simultaneously by successfully completing Houston Community College Courses.	Dual Enrollment allows students to earn high school while potentially earning college credit while still in high school.	IB courses allow students to learn and practice globally minded thinking skills while participating in college level courses.
College Credit	College credit is awarded by individual universities based on the score of the AP Exam taken at the end of the course. Number of credit hours varies based on the course and the exam score.	High school and college credit is awarded when the student passes the course. Students can earn 3-college credit hours/course upon successful completion of course.	Students receive high school credit when they successfully complete the course. Students may elect to accept the 3 college credit hours if they qualify for and pass the college portion of the course.	College credit varies based on the scores received on each exam. Number of credit hours varies based on the course and the exam score. In addition, students who earn the full IB Diploma are awarded 24 college credits at Texas

<https://linktr.ee/AdvancedCourses>

# How Do I Help?

# Organization

- ★ Planner, Family Calendar
- ★ Set aside time for activities and study
- ★ Build class schedule accordingly

# Homework

- ★ Homework
- ★ Reasonable Expectations
- ★ Skyward Family Access / Itslearning
- ★ Teacher Communication
- ★ Growth Mindset / Grit
- ★ Plan for failure



# They are still kids...

- ★ Extracurricular Activities
- ★ Advanced Movers and Athletics
- ★ Electives
- ★ Expect social changes
- ★ Monitor technology
- ★ Constantly shifting

# Developing Interests

- ★ Clubs and Electives
- ★ Summer Camps and Programs
- ★ Career Days
- ★ College Visits
- ★ Networking

# Interest Surveys

- ★ Briggs-Meyer
- ★ Big Future:
- ★ Shmoop
- ★ Thrively
- ★ Princeton Review Career Quiz
- ★ What color is my parachute?

# Tips for Parents: in the linktree

Tips to Help Your pre-AP and AP Student	
<b><u>Practice Working Under a Time Limit</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understanding the AP Exam will lead to better performance.</li><li>• The test is timed.</li><li>• Practice doing tasks with a timed element: chores, decisions, single homework tasks.</li><li>• If they need more time, that's okay. They are working on this skill.</li></ul>	<b><u>Believe in Teamwork</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Parents, students and teachers need to buy in to teamwork.</li><li>• You are not in this alone, nor is your child.</li><li>• Working at the college level in high school is tough. Support is required.</li><li>• Look at grades and assignments with your student.</li><li>• Don't let students take the easy way out with "I don't know". Work with them to figure things out.</li></ul>
<b><u>Devote the Time</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AP won't be tackled in a day or a week.</li><li>• Previously, many students have been successful in school without investing much time – until now.</li><li>• A little effort everyday leads to success at the end.</li><li>• Help your student understand work/life balance and help them plan.</li><li>• No homework? Read, practice online, study!</li></ul>	<b><u>Learn to Structure your Days and Time</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Break down tasks and plan them for the day and the week.</li><li>• Backwards Planning – start at the end and decide how much time to invest to get to the goal.</li><li>• Think aloud with your child. Talk through your process as you make a plan and demonstrate how you prioritize and make decisions.</li></ul>
<b><u>Practice Delayed Gratification</u></b> <p><i>"There are two paths people can take. They can either play</i></p>	<b><u>Have a Plan for Failure</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Failure is a natural part of life. Our response to</li></ul>

# Other Resources

- ★ [www.shmoop.com](http://www.shmoop.com) – AP, SAT, ACT test prep – free services for SBISD students.
- ★ [www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy](http://www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy)
- ★ [www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org](http://www.bigfuture.collegeboard.org)
- ★ [www.Khanacademy.org](http://www.Khanacademy.org) – free tutorials and support, SAT prep
- ★ Naviance
- ★ OnRamps Website

# For More Information

- ★ **Your School Counselor**
- ★ **AP / Pre-AP / GT**
- ★ **[Amy.Ellingson@springbranchisd.com](mailto:Amy.Ellingson@springbranchisd.com)**
- ★ **Dual Credit / Dual Enrollment**
- ★ **[Donna.Handlin@springbranchisd.com](mailto:Donna.Handlin@springbranchisd.com)**



Please give us  
your feedback.

**Thank You!**



<https://forms.office.com/r/cPEzxXpSBa>

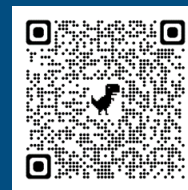
# Spring Branch ISD **parent@u**



**Session II**  
will start at 10:00 a.m.



**Visit the SBISD Parent U site**  
to check the Course Guide  
for topics



[www.springbranchisd.com/parentu](http://www.springbranchisd.com/parentu)