

Welcome to ETHS!

One Humanities is an interdisciplinary course that integrates World History and English through the study of human culture. The purpose of the course is to establish an academic foundation for freshman students in both English and History. One Humanities is anchored by the chronology of World History, from ancient civilization to 1800, and connects with the English curriculum via classical and contemporary literature. Throughout the year students will be challenged to question and think critically about how ancient and modern stories shape their own thoughts, philosophy and culture.

Our English and History teachers have developed a demanding, culturally integrated, and engaging curriculum. All students in One Humanities are able to earn honors credit based on the quality of the work they do. To accomplish this we have an earned honors system in place for awarding honors credit. The curriculum, taught at the highest level, is challenging, but we have abundant supports in place to help students succeed. The remainder of this document outlines how students will be graded and how students will earn honors credit.

Key terms you will hear throughout the year:

Humanities Team – A partnership made up of a History teacher and an English teacher, the two of whom are responsible for working with and instructing the same core group of students. Humanities Teams work together to coordinate the History and English curricula and to create a cohesive experience for students in One Humanities.

Rubric – A tool for evaluating larger assignments and written tasks. Rubrics provide students with clearly-defined criteria for success in all aspects of an assignment. Rubrics break an assignment down into multiple components and help clarify teachers' expectations for student success on an assignment.

Document-Based Question (DBQ) – Students are given a question along with one or more high-level documents to read and interpret. Students must develop a written response to a question asking them to use, evaluate, or explain the document(s) in some manner.

Claim, Evidence, Reasoning (CER)- This is part of the scientific inquiry continuum that allows students to think like a scientist. The student must state a claim that answers a question/ hypothesis. They will then provide data from sources provided to support their claim. Finally, students will use scientific principles to describe why the evidence supports the claim.

What are the categories in Home Access Center (HAC) and how will they figure into my student's grade?

Category	Percentage of Grade	Description
Assessments for Earned Honors Credit	20%	These are summative assessments that count towards earning honors credit.
Summative Assessments	40%	These are larger assignments, such as exams, longer essays, and projects that do not include the Assessments for Earned Honors Credit. Summative Assessments are given periodically to measure what students know and are able to do. It is helpful to think of summative assessment as a means to gauge, at a specific time, student learning relative to content standards. It is also important to note that summative assessments occur after instruction has occurred. One example of a summative would be a test at the end of a unit.
Formative Assessments	40%	These are homework assignments, quizzes, and practice activities. Formative Assessments are part of the instructional process. When incorporated into classroom practice, formative assessments provide the information needed to adjust teaching and learning while they are happening. The purpose of formative assessment is to improve learning and "practice" skills in building toward summative assessments.
Total	100%	

How can my student earn honors credit?

To earn honors credit students need to do both of the following

- earn 240 of the possible 300 earned honors credit points and
- earn a C or higher for the semester.

Students must accomplish all of the above in order to earn honors credit each semester.

How do the Assessments for Earned Honors Credit work?

- Students will complete a series of assessments for earned honors credit as part of their English and History coursework.
- Students need to earn 240 (80 percent) of the possible 300 earned honors credit points in English to complete this criterion.
- Students need to earn 240 (80 percent) of the possible 300 earned honors credit points in History to complete this criterion.

Does my student have to earn 80 percent on every Assessment for Earned Honors Credit to earn honors credit for the course?

No, the 80 percent is out of the total number of available points earned over the semester. We recognize that each student learns at his or her own rate and that mastery of some tasks may come more quickly than on other tasks. The 80 percent threshold takes individual development into account while ensuring that the student is demonstrating a high degree of achievement.

What are the assessments for earned honors credit? Will students be able to revise Assessments for Earned Honors Credit once they are completed?

1 st Semester			
Quarter	English	History	Biology
1	Research Project*		Graph creation and analysis
2	Free Response Process Paper*	Free Response On-Demand Essay*	Graph analysis and intro to CER
2	Combined On-Demand Essay**		Annotation
2 nd Semester			
Quarter	English	History	Biology
3	Literary Analysis and Pre-Writing *	DBQ Analysis and Matrix	Multiple source CER
3	Literary Analysis Essay*	DBQ Essay*	
4	Research Project *		Conflicting Evidence CER
			Lab data and CER
* These assessments can be revised. See your humanities English or History teacher for details.			
** This assessment will be revised, and the revised essay will count as part of the semester exam.			

What happens if my student is absent for an in-class assessment for earned honors credit?

- The teacher will include the instructions for the completion of the assessment, which may include forwarding the materials to the department office.
- Upon the student's return, he/she should check with the teacher and make arrangements to make up the assessment.

What do I do if my student is absent when an assessment for earned honors credit is due? (For example, my student is absent the day a quarter project is to be turned in.)

Since assessments for earned honors credit include previously announced deadlines, please consult the *ETHS Pilot*.

Will teachers honor IEPs and 504 Plans as part of the Assessment for Earned Honors Credit?

Yes, teachers are required to honor IEPs and 504 Plans by law and will continue to do so for Assessments for Earned Honors Credit.