



CHAMINADE HIGH SCHOOL

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OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

April 18, 2018

Dear Parents,

As you know, Chaminade continues to improve and enhance its academic program and offerings for your sons. While we have already implemented changes this year, many of these changes will actually take effect next year and the following years. I would like to inform you of the next phase of the roll-out of the enhanced program.

I refer you to pages 15-17 and pages 40-41 of the Student Handbook for a more detailed description of the sequences and course offerings. You may recall that the Assistant Principals sent a letter in November explaining the process for student selection for the advanced courses (AP-aligned). You may wish to click on this link for a copy of their [letter](#).

On next Tuesday, April 24, 2018, you will receive your son's course selections for the 2018-2019 academic year. Based on the selection process indicated in the Assistant Principals' letter, your son may have been selected for an advanced course (or two). Since the advanced courses require more work, the normal advanced course load is a maximum of two courses.

I want to make specific mention that the offering of advanced courses does not diminish the caliber of any of the standard courses. Also, please note that if your son does not qualify for an advanced course in one year or in one subject area, this does not preclude advancement in the future years or in other courses.

There is an informational meeting scheduled for **Thursday, April 26, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.** in Darby Auditorium. Administrators and faculty will be available for questions on the course requirements, expectations, etc. Naturally, if you have any additional questions on the course, the selection process, etc., please contact the Assistant Principal's Office (ext. 516).

As part of the implementation of advanced courses and changes to the current curricula, I would also like to announce corresponding changes to calculations of course averages. Please note the following:

1. Students in an Advanced Course (AP-aligned), although not mandatory, are strongly encouraged to sit for the AP exam in that particular subject area. Since the AP exams are cumulative, students who sit for an AP exam will be exempt from taking a comprehensive examination in that particular course.
2. There are capstone assessments are part of each Advanced Course.

3. Students in the advanced courses who do not sit for the AP exam will be required to take a comprehensive exam.
4. Given the changes to course requirements, the calculation of final averages is changed for those in Advanced Courses and those in standard courses. Please note the following for the calculations of final averages corresponding to each course:

UNDERCLASS

Standard Courses

Trim 1 = 25%
 Trim 2 = 25%
 Trim 3 = 20%
 Comp = 30%

Advanced Courses – With AP

Trim 1 = 35%
 Trim 2 = 35%
 Trim 3 = 30%
 Comp = waived

Advanced Courses – No AP

Trim 1 = 25%
 Trim 2 = 25%
 Trim 3 = 20%
 Comp = 30%

SENIORS

Senior Standard Courses

Sem 1 = 35%
 Sem 2 = 35%
 Comp = 30%

Senior Advanced Courses – With AP

Sem 1 = 50%
 Sem 2 = 50%
 Comp = waived

Senior Advanced Courses – No AP

Sem 1 = 35%
 Sem 2 = 35%
 Comp = 30%

5. Please note that the calculation of trimester and semester averages do not change (page 18 #3 of the Student Handbook).
6. While the weight of the comprehensive exams is reduced, the comprehensive exam is still a three-hour exam which covers the material from the entire academic year. The comprehensive exams continue to carry significant weight in the final averages.

Again, if you have questions on the advanced course selection, we hope to see you on April 26th or feel free to contact me or the Assistant Principals.

Sincerely yours,

Bro. Joseph Bellizzi, S.M. '78
 Principal