

# LA 9 Honors

Course and Placement Information

# An Overview of the Course

- Higher level thinking, writing, and reading skills are necessary for success in this course which will challenge and engage students.
- Students should be prepared (and excited!) to do more complex reading and more writing than in a general LA 9 course.
- Students are expected to know the foundations of essay writing as well as be able to analyze and talk about literature in an insightful way.

# What students do well in the course?

- Students who have a passion for reading and writing.
- Students who can see the value in “growth over grades.”
- Students who are capable of generating extensive writing around the analysis of a text.
- Students who are able to make inferences and consider an author’s craft rather than just summarize what the text says. They are able to talk about the how, not just the what.

# What is the difference between an Honors and AP course?

- AP courses have a nationally approved curriculum and syllabus. There is a test students can take at the end of the course, and if they do well enough on it, they may receive college credit for the course. Honors and advanced courses were developed by Rochester Community schools. They are designed to challenge high achieving students and CAN help them prepare for AP courses. Honors and advanced courses are not required to take an AP class.

# How do I get into the course?

- EVERY students must complete an application and online writing assessment.
- Online writing assessment will be checked for plagiarism using [turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).
- Students must submit a contract requesting placement into the honors course.
- Other data may be used to determine the best placement for you.

# What other requirements are there?

- Students will be assigned summer reading and assignments.
- The expectation is that once you are placed in the course, you remain in the course for the entire year.

# What if I am not recommended for the course or decide not to take it?

- Don't worry!
- The transition to high school is a challenging one.
- If you excel in LA 9, you are able to take LA 10 Honors.
- There are no prerequisites to take an AP course.

# Due Dates

- Applications will be due a week from today. The application can be found online at <http://bit.ly/LA9H2019>
- Writing assessments will be submitted online to turnitin.com by the same day.
- Once an application and writing assessment have been submitted, students will receive a letter with their recommended placement and a contract for the course.
- If you are taking LA 9 honors, you will fill out and submit the contract to the main office or mail it to the curriculum office to Mrs. Painter's attention. Only students with applications, writing assessments, and contracts completed will be placed in the course.
- If you have any questions or concerns, email Mrs. Painter at [apainter@rochester.k12.mi.us](mailto:apainter@rochester.k12.mi.us).

Questions?