

HONORS COURSES

In order to meet the needs of some of the home school community, it is the intent of Shanan Classical Tutorials to offer Honors level courses. This will be accomplished in either of two ways:

- Honors option within a course which students may choose at the beginning of the course
- Honors level course

Honors Level Courses

The following courses are currently available as Honors level courses.

- Honors Writing and Grammar
- British Literature with Honors option

As the need and interest increases, more courses will be added to this tract, especially at the junior and senior level.

Honors designation is arrived at by the recommendation of the tutor and approval of the board based on criteria met.

Honors Commitment

It needs to be stated that enrolling a student in an Honors level course requires a level of commitment on the part of the parent and the student. Honors students are expected to work harder and work more independently in preparation for higher level courses at post-secondary schools.

Home school students should have the opportunity and be prepared to compete with their public/private counterparts when it comes to academic achievement. Honors courses will afford the home school student greater access to scholarships and higher level courses at colleges and universities, not to mention greater preparation for those courses.

A student should not be enrolled in these courses in order to attempt a higher grade point average. By taking Honors level, students do qualify for weighted grade point averages, but it is intended for those students who can complete the rigorous requirements.

Honors grading

Honors courses receive the following grades, which are used to calculate a weighted grade point average.

- A = 5.0
- B = 4.0
- C = 3.0
- D = 2.0

When transferring this information to the transcript, one should note if the GPA is weighted (due to the inclusion of Honors level courses) or unweighted.

Honors Purpose

Shanan Classical will abide by the following description and purpose of Honors level courses as it exists within the public school system of North Carolina. The following information was taken from the [North Carolina Standard Course of Study](#).

“Honors courses are intended, and must be developed and conducted to demand more challenging involvement than standard courses. They must be demonstrably more challenging than standard courses and provide multiple opportunities for students to take greater responsibility for their learning. Honors courses should be distinguished by a difference in the quality of the work expected rather than merely by the quantity of the work required.

The purposes of honors courses are to provide the opportunity for advanced work, promote rigorous academic study, practical application, and transfer of knowledge and skills. The intent of honors courses is not to provide a means to attract students to enroll in classes in order to receive the additional credit afforded honors courses, but to offer challenging, higher level courses for students who aspire to an advanced level of learning.

These courses should be designed for students who have demonstrated an advanced level of interest, learning and achievement in a given subject area. Furthermore, students and parents should be

informed and understand that honors courses are more demanding and have requirements beyond those of standard courses.”