

# SIMSBURY HIGH SCHOOL COURSE SELECTION PROCESS

Parent portal open for online  
registration from  
2/7/18 - 2/14/2018

# Graduation Requirements

• English	4.0
• Mathematics	4.0
• Science	3.0
• Social Studies	3.5
• World Language	2.0
• The Arts (Fine or Applied)	2.0
• Physical Education	1.0
• Health Education	.5
• Financial Literacy	.25
• Electives	4.75

**TOTAL CREDITS TO GRADUATE 25.0**

# DROPPING COURSES

Dropping first semester and full-year courses without penalty of a recorded failure must occur within the first 4 weeks of school or after end of quarter 1.

The deadline for dropping second semester courses will be in February.

# COURSE LEVELS

- **Level I** Honors / Advanced Placement
- **Level II** Competitive College Prep
- **Level III** College Prep (Math classes only)

# CHANGING LEVELS

- Once you begin your first semester as a freshman, if a student/parent feels a level change is necessary, you must discuss this with your teacher first.
- Consideration of level changes usually occur after the first four weeks of school or after the end of the first quarter.

# Typical Plan of Studies

## Grade 9

- English
- Algebra or Geometry
- World Civilization 1
- Integrated and Physical Science
- World Language
- PE/Elective
- Study Hall or ESS
- Elective(s)

# English

- All students have been recommended for **Grade 9 English – I or II**

# Mathematics

Students who are presently in

Pre-Algebra 8-II may have been recommended for

- **Algebra 1-II** or
- **Algebra 1-III**

Students who are presently in Algebra 8-I or

Advanced Alg. Geo. have been recommended for

- **Geometry-I** or
- **Geometry-II**



# Science

- All students have been recommended for **Integrated and Physical Science – I or II**
- Project Lead the Way (PLTW)
  - Principles of the Biomedical Sciences may NOT be taken instead of IPS but may be taken as a full-year elective.

# Social Studies

- All students have been recommended for **World Civilization I – I or II**

# World Languages

- Students are encouraged to continue with their 8<sup>th</sup> grade language
- Students may choose to begin the study of a different language

## Options include:

- **Chinese** (excellent visual discrimination, attention to detail, strong and consistent work ethic)
- **Latin** (written language, excellent grammar skills)
- **French** (conversational, many rules, variations)
- **Spanish** (conversational, phonetic)

# Physical Education

- All students will take **PE** daily for one semester
- PE will be offered during the summer through the Department of Continuing Ed. Look for the Spring pamphlet for details.
- You will automatically be registered for PE and withdrawn once you have registered and paid for the summer class through the DCE.

# Health

- There is no grade 9 health requirement.

# Art

Introductory Art experiences include:

- **Art 1** – offered full-year (drawing, ceramics, painting, fine crafts, printmaking, graphic design, sculpture)
- **Art 1A** – offered half-year (drawing, painting, design, sculpture)
- **Ceramics and Sculpture** – offered half-year (Three-dimensional experience in both ceramics and sculptural media)
- **Jewelry & Glass**– offered half-year (Introduced to traditional and contemporary jewelry making techniques)

# Business and Finance

3 semester courses available to choose from:

- **Introduction to Business and Finance**  
(economic awareness and business competencies)  
1/2 credit
- **Introduction to Business Technologies**  
(Microsoft Office, Publisher, PowerPoint, PhotoStory, Excel) 1/2 credit
- **Web Design Elements** (Dreamweaver, Flash and Photoshop) 1/2 credit

# Family and Consumer Science

- **Smart Cooking** (the world of cooking with an emphasis on nutrition)
- **Regional and International Cuisine 1** (regional and ethnic food experiences)
- **Baking and Pastry Arts 1** (prepare and evaluate a variety of baked goods, desserts and pastries)
- **Child Development 1** (child-related careers and knowledge)



# Technology & Engineering

- **Introduction to Engineering Design** (PLTW, full-year course)
- **Introduction to Transportation** (problem-solving activities as they relate to vehicles)
- **Aviation** (flight and aerodynamic principles)
- **Digital Video Production 1** (explore digital video and image creation and editing)
- **Construction 1** (team activities and projects, carpentry)
- **Architecture 1** (mechanical drawing utilizing “CAD” or computer aided design)

# Music

Students continuing with their present music should select a full year of:

- **Freshman Chorus, Orchestra, or Band.**

Other Music Options: (all ½ year courses)

- **Introduction to Music Composition & Song Writing :** iPad-based, interactive class. *Advanced Music Composition & Song Writing to follow.*
- **Introduction to Music Theory:** Learning the fundamentals of music theory. *Intermediate Music Theory to follow.*
- **Intro to Theater:** Developing acting skills through use of body, mind and voice in group performance
- **Technical Theater:** Students will learn how to analyze a script in order to determine the technical aspects needed for the production.
- **Unified Music:** Combines students to work together in small group music settings, targeting skill development.
- **Chamber Music & Ensembles:** Discuss with counselor and music teacher.

# Special Scheduling Consideration Form

- Students requesting 2 full-year electives:  
One credit must be a full year music, Art or PLTW course.

## Requirements:

- Completion of Special Consideration Form  
by **3/12/18**
- Good academic achievement and school  
attendance

# Parent/Student Course Selection Meeting

**Monday February 5, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.**

- **Simsbury High School Auditorium**
  - A-K report to Auditorium
  - L-Z report to Cafe
- **Bring: Program of Studies, Cluster booklet and directions for online registration.**

# Alternate HS Choices

- If you've already applied to a Magnet, Vocational-Technical, or Private School, you will still register for SHS classes.

# Student Learning Clusters

- Booklet familiarizes you with the learning clusters at SHS
- Please review this booklet and discuss with your parents as you begin to choose classes that match your strengths and your interests.

# Online course registration

- Refer to paper instructions that will walk you step-by-step through the registration process.
- The parent portal is open from **February 7 - February 14th**. All registrations must be completed by February 14th. If you do not have access to a computer, sign up to use a computer in the LMC.

# Reminder

- Parent/Student Course Selection meeting Monday Feb 5th at SHS at 7pm
- Registration must be completed by February 14, 2018