

THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of the Chancellor
400 Golden Shore
Long Beach, California 90802-4275

(213) 590-5512

Date: February 29, 1984

To: Presidents

From: W. Ann Reynolds
Chancellor

W. Ann Reynolds

Subject: Executive Order 432 Additional Grade Points for High School Honors Courses

I am transmitting five (5) copies of Executive Order No. 432 which authorizes assigning additional value to grades in certain honors courses offered in the secondary schools. We take this action as part of the overall effort to improve the preparation of students entering The California State University.

In addition to prescribing minimum high school college preparatory courses and encouraging university-bound students to take a full range of college preparatory work, we wish to encourage students preparing for university study to take the most demanding courses they are capable of in all academic disciplines. Consultations with representatives of the secondary schools and the University of California have led us to the conclusion that this action will contribute to overcoming student reluctance to enroll in more rigorous courses.

The President is responsible for implementing Executive Orders where applicable and for maintaining the repository and index for all Executive Orders.

WAR:rp

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Admissions Officers
Coordinators, Relations with Schools
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THE CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
Office of the Chancellor
400 Golden Shore
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Executive Order No.: 432
Title: Additional Grade Points for High School Honors Courses
Effective Date: September 1, 1984
Supersedes: No previous Executive Order

This Executive Order is issued pursuant to authority in Sections 40753 and 40754 of *Title 5*, California Administrative Code and Sections 1 and 2 of Chapter III of the Standing Orders of the Board of Trustees.

The California State University will assign additional value to grades in certain honors courses effective with students entering The California State University fall 1985.

Grades in up to eight semester courses taken in the student's last two years of high school will generate five grade points for each unit of A work, four points for a B, and three points for a C, provided these courses are certified by the high school as being taught at the honors level. (Grades of D in honors courses will generate only one grade point as in other courses.) Honors courses must be in the fields of English, foreign language, history, laboratory science, and advanced mathematics (courses at the level of advanced algebra, math analysis, trigonometry, precalculus or calculus). To qualify for certification as honors level courses, the following criteria must be satisfied as appropriate.

CRITERIA

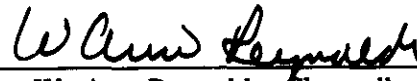
1. All honors level courses must be open only to those students who have met criteria established by the district or school. Such criteria must specify prerequisite courses and appropriate performance levels in such courses as well as in other courses.
2. All honors level courses must have extended and enriched content, as well as additional workload, which set them apart from regular college preparatory courses in the same subject. (All Advanced Placement courses in the subjects cited above meet this criterion.)
3. All honors level courses must have significantly higher performance levels and expectations of students which set them apart from regular college preparatory courses in the same subject.
4. All honors level courses must include a comprehensive written final examination.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- A. Secondary schools may designate honors level courses for which the CSU will assign additional grade point values provided the courses designated meet the above CSU criteria for honors courses and the schools agree to the CSU policies and procedures for such designation.
- B. A secondary school course which is not an Advanced Placement course may be designated an honors level course only when there is a regular college preparatory course offered in the same subject at the same grade level.

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- C. If the school offers an Advanced Placement course in any one of the subject areas listed above, only one additional year course in the same subject may be certified as honors. If no Advanced Placement course is offered in a subject, one or two year courses may be certified in that subject.
- D. Courses taken at a regionally accredited college or university and entered on the high school transcript for high school credit will be considered to be honors level if they meet the above criteria and are so certified by the high school principal.
- E. Documentation for courses certified to be at the honors level must be available for review upon request by CSU officials. Such documentation should include lists of prerequisites, syllabuses, copies of final examinations, and, if applicable, reports on participation and performance on Advanced Placement examinations.
- F. Secondary schools must designate honors level courses on the high school transcript, preferably by the designator "H" or "AP".



W. Ann Reynolds, Chancellor

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