

NEW TRIER HIGH SCHOOL COURSE LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS

	College Prep Level 2	Honors Level 3	High Honors Level 4
Concepts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Abstraction from concrete examples 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis, inference, and abstraction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis, inference, abstraction, and synthesis leading to complex concept development
Pace	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accelerated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rapid
Scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focused 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expanded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In-depth
Instructional Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sequential and guided Concrete, linear emphasized Emphasis on building and reinforcing skills leading to independent learning Resourcefulness and creative thinking encouraged Extensive development of fundamental skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and organization Classes are smaller; some are co-taught 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Combination of guided instruction and independent inquiry Connection established between concrete, literal, and abstract, theoretical Emphasis on building skills leading to independent learning Resourcefulness and creative thinking encouraged 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less guided instruction and more independent inquiry Abstract, theoretical emphasized Emphasis on independent learning Resourcefulness and creative thinking encouraged
Communication Skills (e.g., writing, speaking, listening)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic conventions of correct spoken and written expression 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correctness of standard conventions plus introduction to rhetorical techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong degree of proficiency in standard conventions and deliberate rhetorical techniques
Class Activities (e.g., discussion, problem solving, group work)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explicitly structured and ordered Teacher-directed, some open-ended activities Frequent content and skill review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Moderately structured and ordered Some student initiative expected Some content and skill review 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimally structured and open-ended activities Student initiative expected Infrequent skill review; content review done independently
Assignments (e.g., homework, projects, papers, research)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explicitly structured and directed Some amount of reading and writing required Independent work reinforces new material introduced in class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explicitly structured and moderately directed Moderate amount of reading and writing required Independent work requires some new material to be learned outside of class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explicitly structured and open-ended Extensive amount of reading and writing required Independent work requires significant amount of new material to be learned outside of class
Additional Level			
Level 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In core academic departments, level-9 courses accommodate the needs of students at all academic levels and are taught with expectations for learning that are most appropriately weighted at level 3. Students who choose to take an elective class as a level-9 major credit class are required to do significant work outside of class to deepen the learning experience. 		

*AP courses are calculated at level-4 credit.