

ACPS TALENTED AND GIFTED (TAG) AT THE HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL

Presented to TAGAC

High School Subcommittee:

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What does TAG look like at TC?

Honors, AP and DE Classes

TAG in High School is Made up of advanced course offerings

- Advanced Placement (AP)
- 33 courses across core and elective subjects
- Correspond to a standardized AP exam, which determines eligibility for college credit
- Open Enrollment

Dual Enrollment

- Students are dual enrolled with NOVA Community College (NVCC)
- Students receive college credit based upon grade in the class
- Requires general placement test

Honors

- Honors equivalent for virtually all Science, English, and Social Studies courses
- Open Enrollment
- Teachers expected to accelerate ACPS general education curriculum for TAG students

Some Available AP/DE Courses

English:

AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition

Arts:

AP Art History
AP Music Theory
AP Studio Art: Drawing
AP Studio Art: 3-D Design

Math/Computer Science:

AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Computer Science A
AP Computer Science Principles
AP Statistics

Science:

AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Environmental Science
AP Physics II (C)

Social Studies:

AP Comparative Government
AP Economics
AP European History
AP Psychology
AP United States Government
AP United States History
AP Human Geography
AP World History

World Languages:

AP Chinese Language and Culture AP
French Language and Culture
AP German Language and Culture AP
Latin
AP Spanish Language and Culture AP
Spanish Literature and Culture

AP Capstone:

AP Seminar
AP Research

Online Courses

Students may enroll in dozens of ACPS online courses.

- Can be taken during school, after school (“8th block”), during summer break (fee required)
- Can be used to move ahead in a subject area
- Can be used to take courses not offered by the school due to low enrollment

Non-ACPS resources:

- Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)
 - Coursera
 - TED ed
 - edX
- External vendors
 - Some can be accepted for ACPS credit
 - Cost to be paid by family

Extracurricular Activities

Clubs/academic teams are an opportunity for enrichment outside of the classroom.

- National, Math, and English Honor Societies
- Debate, It's Academic, Model UN, Youth and Government
- Robotics, Physics club, Women in Stem
- HOSA, DECA, Entrepreneurship, Marketing
- Superintendent's Student Leadership Committee, School Board Committees

Programs external to ACPS for TAG students during the academic year:

- Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth (Online Programs, Family Academic Programs)
- Education Program for Gifted Youth (Stanford)

Summer Opportunities

Governor's School

- Open only to TAG-identified students in VA
- 3-week, application based residential intensive at college campuses
- Performing Arts, Agriculture, Humanities, Mathematics, Science and Technology, World Languages, Life Sciences and Medicine, Marine Science, Engineering

University and TAG-focused Courses


- Many colleges offer “pre-college” programs for academic enrichment: Google
- John Hopkins Center for Talented Youth summer classes

Exchange Programs

- National/International organizations offer exchange programs
- AFS, Rotary international, Dept. of State, etc.

Internships

- College Career center have some contacts with local leaders for internships
- Rely on your own connections, Google



Customizing your advanced academic experience is possible: but is it universally available to students and families without extensive self-advocacy?



Vision for the Future

Communication

Aggregation of TAG resources into a central webpage/datapage.

- Quarterly newsletters advertising resources sent to TAG students, parents, and counselors

Direct outreach to TAG families about opportunities.

- Large physical presentation
- Targeted outreach to identified families

Communicate to all high school students.

- Entering ACPS from non-ACPS systems about
- TAG identification and TAG pathways



Flexibility

9th and 10th grade Honors Courses (esp. English) have no AP/DE equivalent

- Could AP Seminar be counted as an English credit?

Better Awareness of online options

Success should not depend upon parent advocacy

- Informing parents/students about options to increase flexibility (25th hour, PE online, waiver for sex ed., etc.)



Clarity

There is still a lack of clarity about the purpose and target of the STEM academy

- Many parents are seeing it as a TAG track, efforts to get “Governor’s school certificate for STEM Academy seen as a TJ-like school.

Need to actively communicate to TAG parents actual purpose and target



Immediate Asks

Aggregate all HS TAG resources

- Course guide
- Extracurricular and summer opportunities

Direct contact to rising 9th grade families (and all others in the long term) informing them of opportunities.

Regular communication (quarterly newsletter, archiving information at TAG-specific website) with TAG parents, TAG students, and counselors.

Clear information conveyed to all high school students entering ACPS from non-ACPS school systems.