

Honors/AP Science Course Appeal Instructions and Form

Do I have to apply to enroll in an AP or Honors Science course at SI?

No. If you meet the criteria for admission (listed below) you may enroll in the course without writing an application or appeal. However, if you do not meet the criteria, and you believe enrolling in the course would be of benefit to both you and the class as a whole, you may appeal to the department to waive the enrollment criteria in your case. This is the purpose of this form.

Where and when do I turn in this form?

After you have completed the following two pages, return this form to your **current science teacher** no later than **Monday, March 2, 2009 by 8:30 AM**. This is a hard deadline. If you are not currently enrolled in a science course, return the form to the teacher of your most recent science course.

What are the criteria for enrollment in Honors and AP Science courses without submitting this form?

They are as follows, as published in the online course catalog:

- **Chemistry Honors:** Prerequisites – Biology, Algebra 1 Accelerated or Algebra 2H / Criteria for Enrollment – Science GPA 3.3 or higher; Math GPA 3.3 or higher; overall GPA 3.3 or higher
- **Physics Honors:** Prerequisites – Biology, Chemistry / Criteria for Enrollment – previous or concurrent enrollment in Precalculus Accelerated or Precalculus Honors
- **AP Biology:** Prerequisite – Biology / Criteria for Enrollment – Overall GPA 3.3 or higher and successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics with Science GPA 3.3 or higher. *Note:* students not meeting these criteria may submit an appeal under the following alternate criteria: Overall GPA 3.7 or higher and successful completion of Biology with Science GPA 3.7 or higher and approval of the department chair
- **AP Chemistry:** Prerequisite – Chemistry / Criteria for Enrollment – Overall GPA 3.3 or higher and successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics with Science GPA 3.3 or higher. *Note:* students not meeting these criteria may submit an appeal under the following alternate criteria: Overall GPA 3.7 or higher, Math GPA 3.7 or higher, and successful completion of AP Biology with Science GPA 3.7 or higher and approval of the department chair
- **AP Physics C:** Prerequisite – Physics / Criteria for Enrollment – Overall GPA 3.3 or higher, successful completion of Biology, Chemistry, and Physics with Science GPA 3.3 or higher, and previous or concurrent enrollment in AP Calculus AB or BC. *Note:* students not meeting these criteria may submit an appeal under the following alternate criteria: Overall GPA 3.7 or higher, Math GPA 3.7 or higher, and successful completion of AP Chemistry with Science GPA 3.7 or higher and approval of the department chair

(Physics Honors and Chemistry Honors are strongly recommended for students planning to enroll in the corresponding AP course.)

How can I tell if I have met the above criteria? I don't know my Science GPA!

Your counselor has been provided with a computer-generated list of all students who meet these criteria. You should only be filling out this form if you are **not** on that list. If you are on the list, the counselor can enroll you in the course without difficulty.

How will I know if my appeal has been approved?

Notices will be posted on the Science Department webpage (by ID number), sent to your counselor by e-mail, and submitted online to the Director of Scheduling (Mr. Ugawa).

Please PRINT neatly in PEN. Fill out this page and the next page.

Name: (Last) _____, (First) _____ ID Number: _____

Current Year: ___ FRESHMAN ___ SOPHOMORE ___ JUNIOR

Counselor's Name: _____

I wish to enroll in: ___ Honors Chemistry ___ Honors Physics
 ___ AP Biology ___ AP Chemistry ___ AP Physics

My Cumulative (Weighted) GPA = _____ My Fall Semester GPA = _____

My Overall Science GPA = _____ My Overall Math GPA = _____

What SCIENCE courses have you taken at SI?

Year	Course Title	Fall Semester Grade	Spring Semester Grade	Teacher's Name

What MATH courses have you taken at SI?

Year	Course Title	Fall Semester Grade	Spring Semester Grade	Teacher's Name

Enter STANDARDIZED TEST SCORES as they apply to you:

PSAT Verbal = _____ SAT Verbal = _____ SAT II = _____
 (specify test & score)

PSAT Math = _____ SAT Math = _____ Other = _____
 (specify test & score)

Please write a short statement explaining why you should be enrolled in the course or courses specified despite not meeting the published requirements for enrollment. Include a discussion of your strengths as a student. Limit your response to the space provided. Your response should be neat and legible.

If you wish to enroll in an AP Science course without taking the first year course in that subject (for example, if you wish to take AP Chemistry without taking Chemistry or Chemistry Honors first), you'll need to pass an entrance exam offered at the end of summer. Please write a short note describing your willingness to engage in an independent study program over summer with your future AP teacher. Please also comment on any obligations or time constraints you might have that could interfere with this summer work or placement exam.

"I have read the course description and the prerequisites, and if admitted, will work to my fullest potential to compete the course."

Student's signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent's/Guardian's signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Any additional comments from the parent or guardian?

***** DO NOT WRITE IN THE SPACE BELOW *****

The following is to be completed by your CURRENT or MOST RECENT SCIENCE TEACHER.

Please rate the student in the areas below according to the following scale.

- 1 – inadequate for admission to course / poor / not-recommending
- 2 – unable to decide or determine / “I am on the fence” / possibly-recommending
- 3 – adequate for admission to the course / good or great / recommending

- motivation _____
- study skills _____
- critical thinking skills _____
- conscientious classroom behavior _____
- test taking ability _____
- interest in science, regardless of grade _____
- commitment to homework _____
- realistic self-appraisal _____

Other comments?

Current teacher’s signature: _____

The following is to be completed by the DEPARTMENT CHAIR.

Enrollment Application: ___ APPROVED ___ APPROVED, BUT MUST PASS ENTRANCE EXAM
 ___ DENIED

Basis: _____

Department Chair’s Signature: _____