

# Northwood High School

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Northwood High School (NHS) is one of five comprehensive high schools in Irvine, CA. Located in the upper-middle class suburban neighborhood of Northwood, NHS is a WASC accredited, California Distinguished School and US Department of Education Blue Ribbon School and currently serves approximately 2,200 students in grades 9 through 12. NHS addresses a range of student needs and abilities with a student-centered focus. While our profile touts the skills and abilities of our university-bound students, we take great pride in our entire community of learners whose talents are limitless. Due to COVID-19, students were given the option to attend San Joaquin High School (our district's virtual academy) for 100% online instruction for the 2020-21 school year.

## COUNSELING

The Northwood High School counseling team consists of five counselors, one college and career specialist and one intervention counselor. All five counselors carry caseloads of roughly 450 students and the intervention counselor works with a caseload of approximately 60 students and facilitates all intervention programs on campus. The college and career specialist coordinates over 130 college visits annually, sees 10-15 students daily, and works alongside our community colleges to ensure access.

## DEMOGRAPHICS

Asian: 56.2%  
White: 21.2%  
Hispanic/Latinx: 9.4%  
Two or More Races: 8.9%  
Filipinx: 2.3%  
Black/African American: 1.5%  
Socioeconomically  
Disadvantaged: 16.9%



## GRADING SCALE

Students are awarded 5 credits for a passing grade in each semester course. The minimum passing grade for each course is a D-.

Grade points are awarded as follows: A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0

Weighted grade points are awarded as follows: A=5, B=4, C=3, D=1, F=0

P/NP grades for 2020-21 were optional per CA law AB 104.

## INTEGRATED CURRICULUM

NHS offers a challenging, comprehensive high school program highlighting an innovative science and mathematics curriculum. Students who choose to complete Integrated Science 1, 2, 3\* will have met all the Next Generation Science Standards (biology, physics, chemistry, earth and space). The completion of Math 3 is equivalent to Algebra 2 and the completion of Math 4 is equivalent to Pre-Calculus.

\*not required

## CORE CURRICULUM

Students in grades 9 and 10 are expected to complete our core curriculum:

Grade 9 - Humanities: World Literature and World History, Mathematics, Integrated Science 1, two semesters of physical education, and an elective of their choice

Grade 10 - Humanities: US Literature and US History, Mathematics, Integrated Science 2, and an elective of their choice

## FORENSICS CORE

The Forensics Core is a distinct, yearlong cross-curricular honors program that sets out to investigate criminal behavior through scientific, psychological, and philosophical lenses. This inquiry-based program consists of three courses: Forensic Science, Forensic Psychology, and Critical Theory and Literature and immerses students in a transdisciplinary experience devoted to developing a well-rounded understanding of human behavior.

Compassion



Integrity



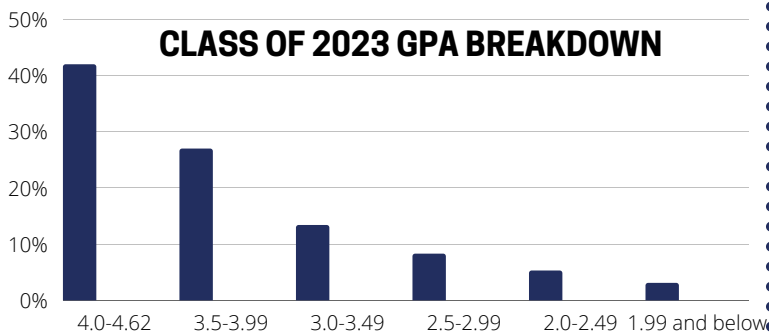
Mutual Respect

## COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS

In a typical year, we have about 80% of graduating seniors completing a minimum college preparatory course of studies. In addition, over 70% of NHS graduates will complete an additional year of advanced mathematics, laboratory science, and world language.

## GRADUATION DATA

**59%** of our 2022 graduates chose to attend a four-year university, while 39% elected to attend community colleges or technical schools. The Class of 2022 had a 96.6% graduation rate with 548 students meeting graduation requirements.



## RANKING

It is district policy to not rank our students. NHS will provide percentile rankings when requested by universities and scholarship organizations. The Class of 2023 consists of 567 students.

Highest GPA: Class of 2023 – 4.62 (Spring 2020 grades CR/NC)

## SAT - CLASS OF 2023

The average SAT score was 1368. There were 192 test takers, accounting for 34% of the Senior Class.

## ACT - CLASS OF 2023

The average ACT Composite score was 30. There were 78 test takers, accounting for 13.7% of the Senior Class.

## NATIONAL MERIT

Commended Students (Class of 2023): \*\*\*  
Semi-Finalists (Class of 2023): 37

## SCHEDULING

Students at NHS are on an alternating block schedule Monday through Friday with a late start on Wednesdays. Semester classes are 18 weeks and yearlong classes are 36 weeks. Students are limited to six non-open enrollment classes, but may enroll in up to two additional open enrollment classes per semester. Performing arts, Athletics, Leadership, MUN, Newspaper, Speech & Debate, and Yearbook classes are open enrollment classes.

NHS partners with Challenge Success, a nonprofit organization connected with the Stanford University Graduate School of Education. The purpose of the program is to promote student well-being and engagement with learning by creating broader definitions of success. Additionally, we partner with Equal Opportunity Schools which is a program designed to help underrepresented students access Advanced Placement classes by examining equity and access barriers and encouraging these students to take more rigorous courses. AP classes are not offered to 9th-grade students but are available to 11th and 12th-grade students with limited availability for those in 10th grade. Last year, NHS students who were enrolled in our 15 AP classes took 1,361 exams with an overall pass rate of 90%.

## HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

NHS offers a rich array of Honors courses in the 9th and 10th grades leading to weighted Honors and Advanced Placement opportunities primarily in grades 11 and 12. Teacher recommendations are required for Honors and AP course placement.

### Honors

Honors World Literature, Honors US Literature, Honors European Literature\*, Honors Critical Theory and Literature\*, Honors World History, Honors US History, Honors Political Economy, Honors Forensic Psychology\*, Honors Integrated Science 1, Honors Integrated Science 2, Honors Integrated Science 3\*, Honors Forensic Science\*, Enhanced Math 2, Enhanced Math 3\*, Honors Spanish 4\*, Honors French 4\*

### Advanced Placement

AP English Literature\*, AP US History\*, AP World History\*, AP American Government\*, AP Art History\*, AP Music Theory\*, AP Statistics\*, AP Biology\*, AP Chemistry\*, AP Physics 1\*, AP Environmental Science\*, AP Spanish Language\*, AP Computer Science A\*, AP Computer Science Principles\*, AP Studio Art: Drawing\*, AP Studio Art: 2D Design\*

\*Denotes courses receiving a weighted grade point and are noted on the transcript with a "+" preceding the course title

## CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

NHS is centrally located between UC Irvine and multiple community colleges. Specifically, NHS is 10.5 miles from UC Irvine, five miles from Irvine Valley College (IVC) and six miles from Santiago Canyon Community College.

Some students augment their course loads with transferable college level courses. Under an agreement with Chapman University, students can complete Math 110 (Single Variable Calculus I) and Math 111 (Single Variable Calculus II) on the NHS campus while earning units at Chapman University. Additionally, students can take IVC's Biotechnology and/or Entrepreneurship courses at NHS for IVC credit. As with any concurrent coursework, students are advised to list courses on their application and forward an official college transcript.

These courses will not be posted on the final NHS transcript.