

Information about Advanced Courses- Class of 2025

Advanced (formerly Pre-AP/IB) courses in 9th and 10th grade are designed to prepare students for Advanced Placement (AP) and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses during their junior and senior years of high school.

The following advanced classes will be offered at Lowery during the 2021-2022 school year:

- Algebra I Advanced
- Algebra II Advanced
- Art I Advanced
- Biology Advanced
- Chinese I Advanced
- English I Advanced
- French I Advanced
- French II Advanced
- Geometry Advanced
- German I Advanced
- GT Phoenix English Advanced**
- Spanish I Advanced
- Spanish II Advanced
- Spanish for Native Speakers Advanced
- World Geography Advanced
- AP Human Geography*

**AP Human Geography is a college course. Students who take this course will be expected to take the AP Human Geo. exam in May. Please contact Zach Silvers (AP Human Geo. Lead Instructor) with questions about AP Human Geo.*

Advanced classes at Lowery are open to all students, with a few exceptions:

- **Phoenix English is only open to students who have been identified as gifted and talented by AISD criteria. GT Phoenix English Advanced is the logical English choice for gifted students who are currently in the GT Humanities program at each middle school and who thrive in a humanities-based course designed for GT learners.
- Enrollment in Spanish II and French II Advanced requires successful completion of French I or Spanish I in 8th grade.
- Enrollment in Geometry Advanced requires successful completion of Algebra I in 8th grade.
- Enrollment in Algebra 2 Advanced requires successful completion of Geometry or concurrent enrollment in Geometry.
 - A grade of 85 or better for every grading period of 8th grade Algebra 1 is required in order to enroll in both Geometry and Algebra 2 in 9th grade.
 - **Students wishing to accelerate in math need to plan with 12th grade in mind.**
While it is appropriate to accelerate the IB math pathway in 9th grade, it is NOT recommended to accelerate the AP math pathway a second year in 9th grade by combining Geometry and Algebra 2. This pathway completes Calculus in 11th grade leaving a 1 year gap in the study of Calculus during 12th grade before returning to the study of Calculus in college. Accelerating in 11th or 12th grade is recommended in order to complete all AP math courses while finishing with Calculus in 12th grade to provide an ideal transition to the study of mathematics in college.

In an advanced class, students can expect:

- A more in-depth analysis of course material
- A rigorous, challenging environment that requires student participation
- To analyze and interpret texts, data, and evidence
- To create arguments and defend a position on a topic
- To develop and test hypotheses
- **To need time to acclimate to the demands of the course—success may not be immediate!**

Characteristics of the “typical” successful student in an advanced class:

- Able to complete homework/projects on time and with little parental supervision
- Strong time management and organizational skills (which may need some time to develop!)
- Works well under academic and time pressure with multiple commitments
- Seeks help from and asks questions of the teacher during class or during tutoring

Lowery Freshman Center Advanced Academics

Please direct course-specific questions to the person listed below.

Advanced Course	Contact	Email Address
Algebra 1	Ryan Snyder Algebra 1 Lead Instructor	ryan.snyder@allenisd.org
Algebra 2	Kathy Hoernke Algebra 2 Lead Instructor	kathy.hoernke@allenisd.org
AP Human Geography	Zach Silvers APHG Lead Instructor	zachery.silvers@allenisd.org
Art 1	Kathryn Galbraith Art Lead Instructor	kathryn.galbraith@allenisd.org
Biology	Erica Harvey Biology Dept. Chair	erica.harvey@allenisd.org
Chinese I	Huizhen Sun Chinese Lead Instructor	huizhen.sun@allenisd.org
English 1	Dawn Downham English Dept. Chair	dawn.downham@allenisd.org
French 1, French 2	Louise Tessier French Lead Instructor	louise.tessier@allenisd.org
Geometry	Zack Bengston Geometry Lead Instructor	zackery.bengston@allenisd.org
German 1	Beth Raeder German Lead Instructor	beth.raeder@allenisd.org
GT Phoenix English 1	Angela Leigh Phoenix Lead Instructor	angela.leigh@allenisd.org
Spanish 1, Spanish 2	Jami Dixon Foreign Language Dept. Chair	jami.dixon@allenisd.org
Spanish for Native Speakers	Marie Matos Native Speakers Lead Instructor	marie.matos@allenisd.org
World Geography	Zach Silvers Geography Dept. Chair	zachery.silvers@allenisd.org

Please let us know if you have questions about Advanced Academics at Lowery!

Carrie Rivera
LFC Advanced Academics Coordinator
Advanced Academics website:

(972) 360-4131
carrie.rivera@allenisd.org
<http://allenisd.org/domain/1524>