

Frequently Asked Questions about Online Summer School

How does the program work? The online course is exactly as it sounds. Students log into the online platform and navigate to the different areas of the platform to read portions of the textbook, do assignments such as post to a discussion board, download a worksheet to complete and then submit it back to the teacher, etc. Tests are also taken online and are timed. The teacher provides the assignment details and the due dates are indicated on the course pacing guide. Students are expected to self-pace and keep track of their due dates and test expectations. Teachers are available for support online and the platform help desk is available for technical support, should a student need it.

What type of student is best suited for online courses? First all students must have access to the internet and a device that they can work on. Students who are successful in online classes are students who are willing to self-pace, are self-motivated and willing to put in the time necessary to prepare and complete all of the required assignments. Students must also have the time to commit to the course. The course is demanding and just because the course is online, does not mean that it does not require a self starter.

Will my student have to be online every day? Generally, yes. Students should be spending approximately 4-5 hours per day (M-F) for a regular online course and 7-8 hours for an honors online course. Students who do not allocate daily time are still expected to meet the deadlines and complete all of the assigned work within the window of the unit in which they are working.

Will there be a designated time every day or weekly where my student will have to be on line? No, students work on their own time and there is no designated time windows that students must be online. Students must however, work to meet the deadlines. If this means that they have to work for eight hours on one day because of a prior engagement, then the student must manage his/her time appropriately.

What do I do if I am in a different time zone? If you are in a different time zone, you must plan and be aware that all deadlines are posted in Pacific Standard Time. You will only receive credit for assignments that are turned in within the deadline that is aligned to Pacific Standard Time. Please make adjustments and plan as necessary if you are not in the CA time zone.

If I am away from a computer and unable to log in for one week, can I still take the class? Yes. If you are willing to take steps to ensure that all of your assignments are turned in on time— which would mean working ahead in order to meet the deadlines. You would need to work out details and specifics with your teacher in order to deal with exams that may occur during that time.

What is the difference between the Honors and regular online course? Simply, the honors course requires more reading and writing and will go into more depth than the regular course. The assignments may ask for more detail and the expectation of the level of writing and detail will be higher. The Honors class is also weighted on the PVPUSD transcript as opposed to the regular history course, which is not

weighted. Weighted means that students earn an extra grade point for grades C and above. Please remember that colleges may or may not accept a weighted grade—this means that when students apply to colleges, that the college may recalculate a student's grade point average to include a weight or not—that is dependent on the school and it is incumbent upon the student to research that with the college.