



HIGH SCHOOL COURSES TAKEN IN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND READINESS TEST POLICY

High School Courses Taken In Middle School (per the St. Dominic Savio handbook)

Incoming students do not earn credit towards graduation for selected courses taken and passed in middle school. Proficiency will be reflected on the student's high school transcript; grades for these courses are not averaged in the high school GPA. Students who complete Algebra I and/or Geometry in middle school should plan to continue with four higher-level mathematics course in grades 9-12. Students who place out of the first year of their foreign language will still need to complete three credits of foreign language studies while at Savio.

Readiness Tests in Mathematics and Foreign Language (per the St. Dominic Savio handbook)

St. Dominic Savio Catholic High School requires readiness tests to be taken by incoming ninth graders and transfer students who wish to place beyond Algebra I, Geometry, Spanish I, Latin I and Chinese I courses taken while in middle school. The exams are administered on specific dates in the spring prior to the student's first year at Savio and measure student proficiency in key mathematics and language concepts.

READINESS TESTS

Students currently taking Algebra I: Students wishing to begin their 9th grade year at Savio in Pre-AP Geometry MUST take and pass the Algebra I readiness test at 70% or higher. A student who scores below 70% may sign up for the Algebra I Summer Boot Camp* at Savio. (There is a fee for this boot camp) During the summer boot camp students will work with the Savio math department to bring Algebra I skills to the Pre-AP level. At the end of the two week course, a student will retake the exam. Upon passing at 70% or higher the student will begin their 9th grade year at Savio in Pre-AP Geometry. If the student again fails to pass the readiness test at 70% or higher, it will be the advice of the Savio math department for the student to retake Algebra I ensuring that he/she masters the subject for continued and future success in the math curriculum.

Students currently taking Geometry: Students wishing to begin their 9th grade year at Savio in Pre-AP Algebra II MUST take and pass the readiness test, which contains both an Algebra I and a Geometry section. Students must pass both sections at 70% or higher to be placed in a Pre-AP Algebra II course. If a student fails to pass the Algebra I section but passes the Geometry section, they can take the Algebra I boot camp to get into Pre-AP Algebra II. If a student does not pass either section then placement options will be discussed with the math department.

► **For Math Readiness Test study resources, visit the Savio math website below:**

<https://sites.google.com/a/saviochs.org/savio-algebra-1-boost-2016/>

Students currently taking Spanish I, Latin I, or Chinese I: Students wishing to begin their 9th grade year at Savio in a higher level language class MUST take and pass the readiness test for that respective language. Students must pass the exam at 85% or higher for placement in Latin II, Chinese II or Pre-AP Spanish II.

For Spanish Readiness Test: A student who scores below 85% may sign up for the Spanish Summer Boot Camp** at Savio. (There is a fee for this boot-camp). During the summer boot camp students will work with the Savio Spanish department to practice and perfect the skills and knowledge needed to be successful in Spanish II. At the end of the two week course, a student will retake the test. Upon passing at 85% or higher the student will begin their 9th grade year at Savio in Pre-AP Spanish II. If the student again fails to pass the proficiency exam at 85% or higher, it will be the advice of the Savio Spanish department for the student to retake Spanish I ensuring that he/she masters the subject for continued and future success in the Spanish curriculum. For readiness test details and expectations, please visit the Savio World Languages website: <http://www.saviochs.org/academics/worldlanguage.cfm>

Students wishing to be enrolled in Pre-AP English I: Students wishing to be enrolled in Pre-AP English I MUST sit for a writing readiness test. The purpose of the writing sample is to gauge the writing capabilities of the student, ensuring proper placement within the English curriculum. The writing prompt, similar to those on the SAT/ACT, does not require any previous student preparation. The student's writing sample will be scored by our English department teachers. This score in combination with the High School Placement Test will determine student placement in Pre-AP English I.

Students wishing to be enrolled in Pre-AP Biology: The Pre-AP Biology course is a demanding course designed to prepare students for future college-level AP courses. Students considering Pre-AP Biology should have advanced reading, organizational, studying and critical thinking skills. If a student qualifies for Pre-AP level courses in **both** mathematics and English, they automatically qualify for placement in Pre-AP Biology. Students not meeting these criteria may apply for placement in Pre-AP Biology. To apply a student will submit a 1 – page hand written essay covering the following: why he/she desires to enter into Pre-AP Biology, their qualifications to enter into the class and what he/she plans to do with the knowledge from the class in the future.