

Guidelines for choosing Option ii courses

Process:

1. Complete an “Option ii” form available from Guidance.
2. Include the program’s course description/syllabus
3. Submit completed form with supporting documents to Guidance
4. Principal’s committee will evaluate the request and approve or disapprove (see criteria)

Course Criteria:

1. Course must be offered by an accredited institution
2. Course must have a comprehensive real wet lab component (NOT LECTURE ONLY)
3. On-line courses that offer virtual labs do not qualify
4. Course syllabus must be comparable to our Honors curriculum (Honors Biology, Honors Chemistry and Honors Physics)

Other Information: (assuming summer study is approved)

1. Student must submit lab notebook or lab reports to the Science Department Supervisor at the time of the final exam.
2. Student must pass the WW-P HS exam to be administered in August (10, 11, 17, 18)
3. Student must submit to guidance the official transcript from the summer institution

“CAVEAT EMPTOR”

Please be aware that less than 50% of students that take Option ii courses actually pass our exam. Option ii courses are expensive and parents and students get upset when the student earns an “A” in the summer course and then fails our exam. If, for example, a student is approved to take chemistry over the summer but fails our exam, that student may not go on to AP Chemistry until he/she has retaken Honors Chemistry at WW-P.

Most summer courses are designed to get students ready for taking the “real” course during the school year, and NOT as a replacement for that course. Our AP teachers assume the students that enter an AP course are completely prepared by their respective first year courses. That means the student must not only have mastery of the concepts and content but must also be proficient in laboratory techniques and procedures that are taught in a comprehensive first year course.

The exam we administer to a student who has completed an Option ii course is NOT the same exam administered to a student who has completed a WW-P course. Because we need to be assured that the Option ii student has completed a comprehensive laboratory experience, the Option ii exam may include a practical laboratory component.

Because the successful completion of a comprehensive laboratory based Biology course is now a graduation requirement in New Jersey, should an Option ii Biology student fail our exam, that student must retake Biology and pass our exam in order to graduate.