



**FAQ**  
 VENADO  
 EMBEDDED HONORS

<b>Question</b>	<b>Answer</b>
<p>What are some of the benefits of the Embedded Honors program?</p>	<p>Embedded Honors (EH) eliminates systematic barriers that may prevent certain groups of learners from accessing our Honors program in our English Language Arts and Social Science. All Venado students enrolled in English Language Arts (ELA) and History/Social Science (HSS) courses have equal access to earn Honors designation. Class sizes in Embedded Honors classes are also smaller than traditional homogeneously grouped Honors courses. All students, not just those traditionally served by Honors programs, have access to rigorous and exciting learning opportunities and have greater motivation to read, write and learn.</p>
<p>How does my child earn an Honors designation in ELA or in HSS?</p>	<p>Students who meet Honors criteria in ELA and/or HSS will receive Honors designation. The specific criteria for each department will be included in teacher syllabi and discussed with students at the beginning of the year and with parents at Back to School Night in the Fall.</p> <p>Students who meet the criteria will have the Honors designation on their school records on a trimester basis. They will also receive a special certificate when they earn the Honors designation.</p>
<p>If students do not earn Honors designation for the whole year, can they earn it for one or two trimesters?</p>	<p>Students earn Honors designation by trimester. For example a student can earn Honors designation all three trimesters. Another student could earn Honors designation in trimester 1 and trimester 3. Yet another student could earn Honors designation for trimester 3 only. An additional benefit of</p>

	<p>Embedded Honors is that students who are not developmentally ready to work for Honors designation at the beginning of the school year may be ready for the challenge later in the year.</p>
<p>How will I know if my student is meeting the Honors requirements throughout the year?</p>	<p>Assignments will have comments that will distinguish if students chose and succeeded with an honors option. At the end of each trimester, students will receive a certificate that they achieved the honors distinction for their Language Arts and/or History class, and their school record will include the designation. Students will be offered multiple opportunities to choose honors extensions in both History and Language Arts.</p>
<p>How can I ensure my student who is working towards the honors designation is being appropriately challenged throughout the course, without the expectation that he/she is not just doing more work?</p>	<p>To ensure an appropriate level of challenge, students will be given choice extension challenge assignments, opportunities to read more complex texts and in depth lessons including more advanced skills. These challenges are a part of the choices in each unit, not in addition to the assigned work.</p>
<p>Will this program prepare my student for High School Honors Courses?</p>	<p>Yes! Students will be well prepared to participate in honors and AP level courses. They will practice the skills necessary to research events, write high school honors level essays, read complex novels, non-fiction and primary sources. Students will also be prepared to give presentations and showcase their work as expected in advanced high school classes.</p>
<p>Will this program be just as rigorous as the traditional Honors/GATE classes?</p>	<p>Yes, it will be just as rigorous with high expectations in Language Arts and History classes for all students. The activities and projects are designed to encourage all students to learn and become effective researchers, readers, and writers without being motivated by a course grade.</p>
<p>How will teachers meet a</p>	<p>Our teachers use Universal Design for Learning (UDL) to</p>

wider range of student needs?

meet the needs of all students, including English Learners, students receiving Special Education services, students with 504 Plans, students who are GATE identified, etc. All students are given the tools, opportunities, and choices to demonstrate mastery of essential standards with the appropriate support they need. Also, students who didn't have opportunities to be challenged with higher-level work now do!