



# Weighted Grades: A Review

**Laguna Beach Unified School District**  
**May 28, 2019**

Alysia Odipo, Ed.D.

# 1

## Overview

2016 Decision and Course  
Weighting



## **Grade Weighting Practices, February 2016 Recommendations**

- ◎ Align practices to UC/CSU
- ◎ Create equal opportunities among foreign language, mathematics, art courses
- ◎ Encourage students to participate in rigorous pathways
- ◎ Encourage students to pursue courses of interest

**Laguna Beach Unified School  
District  
Grade Weighting Practices**

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
FEBRUARY 9, 2016  
PRESENTED BY DARLENE MESSINGER, CHRIS  
HERZFELD AND AMY KERNAN

**Courses Added  
or Unweighted  
from the  
Course of  
Study:  
February 2016  
to Current**

Current Unweighted  
Honors Courses at LBHS

English 9 H

Spanish II H

Spanish III H

Spanish IV H

Added UC Weighted Honors

AP Statistics

AP Computer Science A

AP Computer Sci Principles

AP Art History

Mandarin IV H

Multimedia Design H

Medical Core H

*English 10 H (pending)^*

*Honors Algebra II (pending)^*

*^Retroactive 2 years.*



**Weighted  
AP/Honors  
Courses  
Available at  
Laguna Beach  
High School  
2019-20**

AP Art History

AP Studio Art 3-D Design  
Design

AP English Literature/ Comp

AP Macroeconomics

AP Computer Science Principles

AP Spanish Lang/Culture

AP Calculus AB

AP Biology

AP European History

*English 10 Honors\**

AP Music Theory

AP Studio Art Drawing

AP English Language/Comp AP Statistics

AP Computer Science A

Honors Medical Core

AP Spanish Lit/Culture

AP Calculus BC

AP Physics I

AP US History

*Algebra II Honors\**

AP Studio Art 2-D Design

Honors Multimedia

Honors Spanish V

AP French Lang/Culture

H Mandarin Chinese IV

Adv Chem Research H

Honors Chemistry

AP Government

*\*Pending Approval*



# Four

Total Number of Honors Courses (Unweighted)

# Eight

Total Number of Honors Courses (Weighted) \*pending UC Approval

# Twenty One

Total Number of AP Courses



**General Criteria  
for Approved  
Weighted Courses,  
Office of the  
President,  
University of  
California**

- ◎ Specialized, advanced courses for 10th-12th grades
- ◎ Courses must have established prerequisites
- ◎ Comprehensive final exam or culminating project
- ◎ Comparable in terms of rigor and workload of AP class
- ◎ Specific criteria for subject areas

**Why Align to  
University of  
California system  
for Admission?**

- ◎ A metric for College and Career Indicator (CCI) on CA Dashboard
- ◎ A-G Course Management Portal for California students and schools (formerly UC Doorways)
- ◎ National and international rankings
- ◎ Academic excellence/rigor
- ◎ Affordability and student success



# Process for Course Approval in Doorways

## Board Approval Course of Study

Following approval of the Course of Study, staff publish course catalog and begin work on course for A-G Course Management Portal

## Site Collaboration

Teacher leaders and Assistant Principal build or revise courses in A-G Course Management Portal

## University of California Approval

Course is approved or sent back with course revisions

Once course receives final approval, course is posted on University of California A-G Course Management Portal

The screenshot shows the 'My Courses' page in the University of California A-G Course Management Portal. The page has a blue header with navigation links: Home, My Courses, My Institution, Course Search, Add a New Course, and Help & Resources. A '2019-20 Course' badge is visible. Below the header, there's a 'Course Submission Period' section with a 'Phase 1' badge and a timer showing '10 days remaining in current phase' and '0.7 days remaining to submit courses'. The main content area is titled 'My Courses' and shows a table of submitted courses. The table has columns for UC Course ID, Title, Course Owner, Submission Type, Status Date, and Status. The table lists four courses: WIDEJT (English 10 Honors), TALE2R (English Language Development), MGA0H7 (Algebra 2 Honors), and BGC4A7 (Authentic Exploratory Research). All courses are in 'Pending Review' status.

| UC Course ID | Title                          | Course Owner    | Submission Type               | Status Date  | Status                                   |
|--------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| WIDEJT       | English 10 Honors              | Dawn Huemichitt | Brand New Course              | May 21, 2019 | Pending Review<br><a href="#">Recall</a> |
| TALE2R       | English Language Development   | Nikol King      | Revision                      | May 21, 2019 | Pending Review<br><a href="#">Recall</a> |
| MGA0H7       | Algebra 2 Honors               | Nancy Mooser    | Modified After Another Course | May 21, 2019 | Pending Review<br><a href="#">Recall</a> |
| BGC4A7       | Authentic Exploratory Research | Jun Shen        | Modified After Another Course | May 13, 2019 | Pending Review<br><a href="#">Recall</a> |

# 2

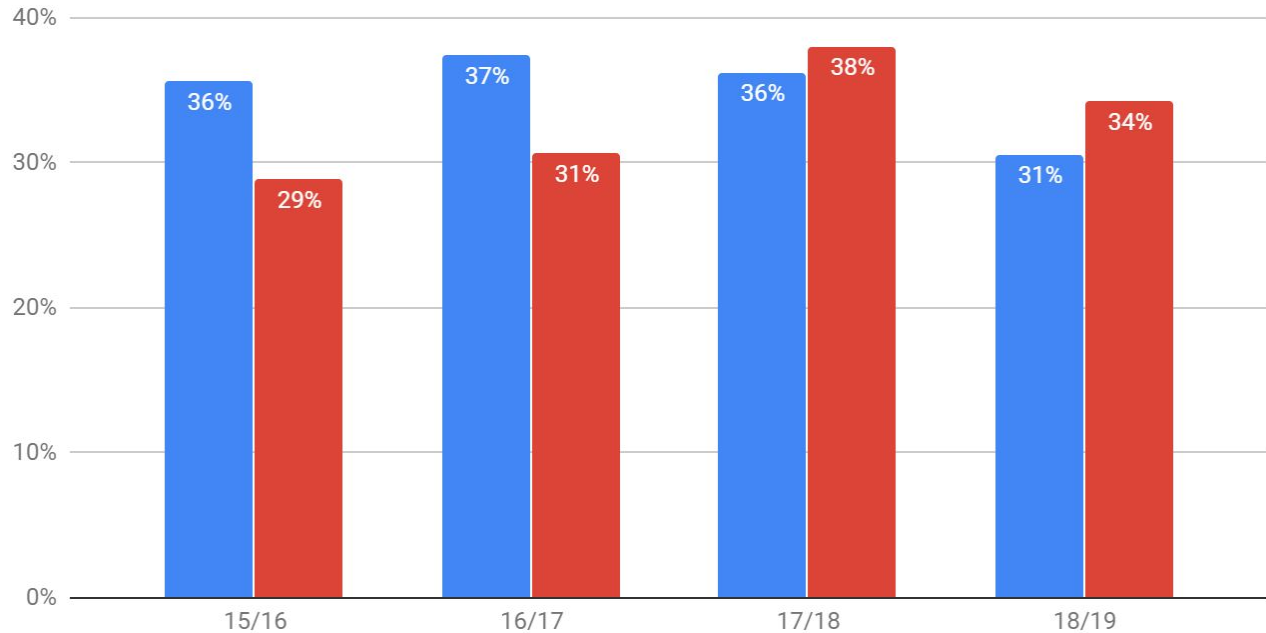
## Course Enrollment

In what ways has enrollment changed since the 2016 decision?



## English Honors Course Enrollment 2015-16 to 2018-19

English 9 Honors Unweighted 2016-17   English 10 Honors - Unweighted 2016-17

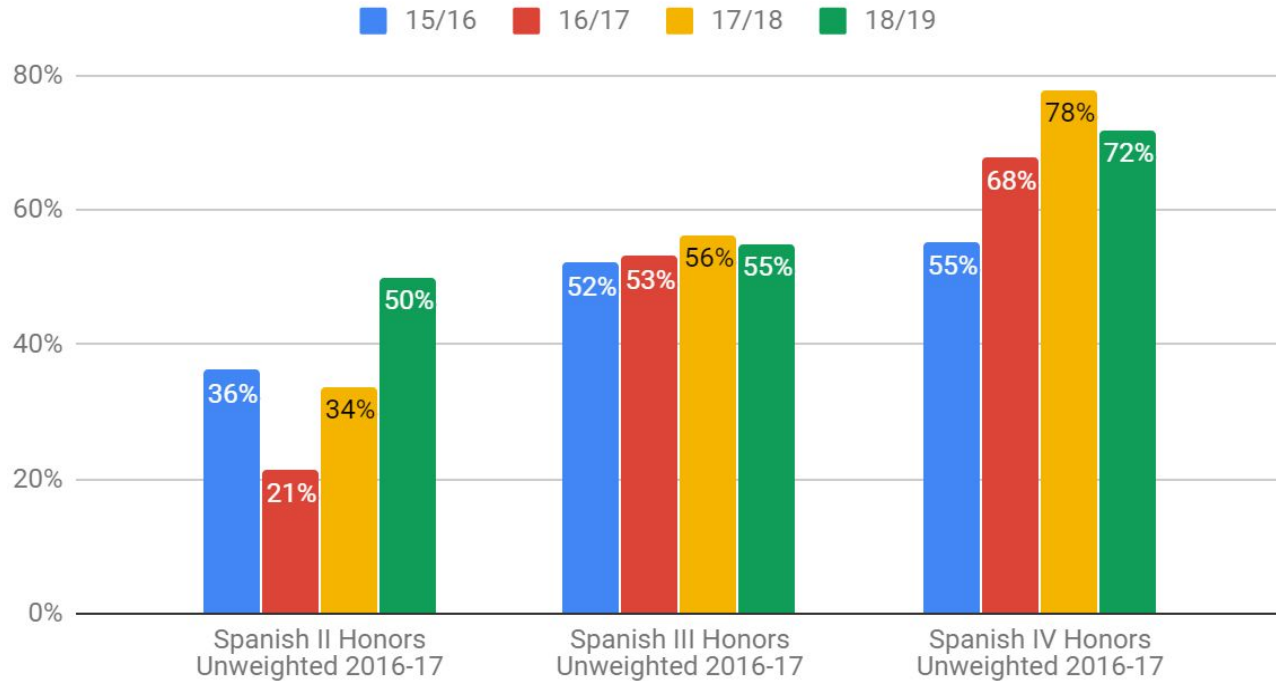


English  
Courses

Impact on  
enrollment  
pattern

**World  
Language  
Courses**  
Impact on  
enrollment  
pattern

## Honors Spanish Courses - Unweighted in 2016-17

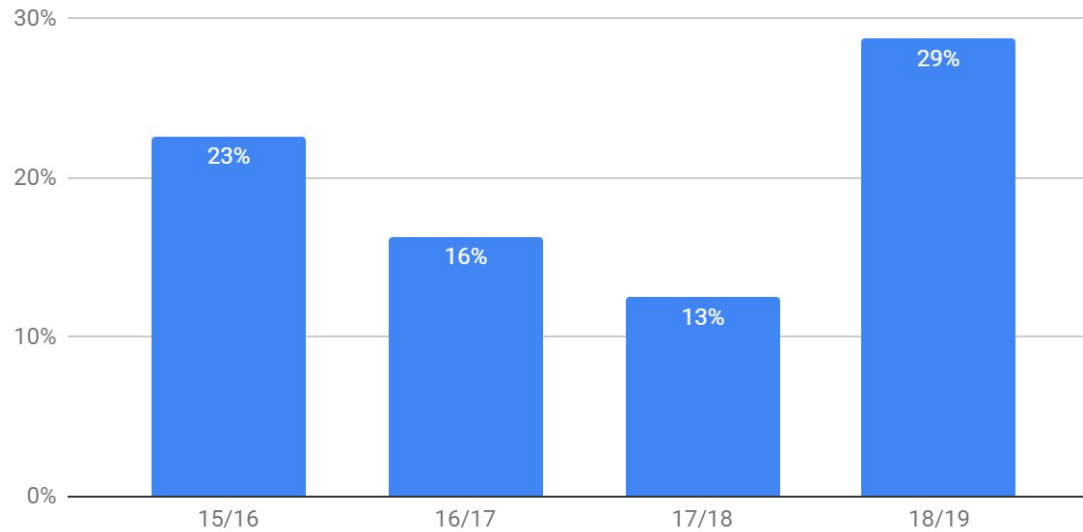




## Mathematics Course

Impact on  
enrollment  
pattern

### Algebra II Honors Enrollment



Algebra II Honors Unweighted in 2015-16

# 3

## Scholarships

What is the impact of weighting on student scholarships?



**National Merit  
Scholarship**

Based on PSAT Score

\$2,500

7,500 Finalists

***National Merit Scholarship Program***

**Merit  
Scholarships  
by School**

**UCLA**

**USC**

**Stanford  
University**







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“An absence of weighting doesn't hurt your students at all in our process. We don't pay attention to the GPA provided by the high school. We recalculate our own GPA, but even then, it's just a number. In general, more A's is better, but we'll admit students we think will engage most effectively.”

Kirk Brennan,

USC

Director of Admissions





**Thank you**