

Waunakee Laude System

The purpose of the Laude System is to recognize students for the rigor of their academic program as well as their success in that program. This award system will be in addition to the gold Honor Cords that are awarded for GPAs of 3.6 or higher.



Award Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be three levels of awards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Summa Cum Laude (purple cord) ○ Magna Cum Laude (silver cord) ○ Cum Laude (white cord)
Initial Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Laude system will be implemented beginning with the class of 2011. There will no longer be a valedictorian or salutatorian. It will be possible to “tweak” the system if deemed necessary after a year or two of implementation.
Minimum GPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be considered for a Laude award, the student must have a cumulative GPA after first semester senior year of 3.0 or higher. This is approximately the top half of the class.
Laude Score	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A student’s Laude Score will be determined by multiplying 1) the student’s cumulative GPA after first semester senior year by 2) the number of “advanced” semester courses completed in all four years as listed on the Advanced Courses chart.
Score Breaks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be no rounding of Laude Scores <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 56+ for Summa Cum Laude ○ 40-55.999 for Magna Cum Laude ○ 24-39.999 for Cum Laude • There may be some students who will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis, such as students who take a semester or year abroad or who graduate early.
Examples	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum combinations for Cum Laude recognition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3.0 GPA and 8 semesters of advanced coursework ○ 3.5 GPA and 7 semesters of advanced coursework ○ 4.0 GPA and 6 semesters of advanced coursework • Minimum combinations for Magna Cum Laude <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3.0 GPA and 14 semesters of advanced coursework ○ 3.5 GPA and 12 semesters of advanced coursework ○ 4.0 GPA and 10 semesters of advanced coursework • Minimum combinations for Summa Cum Laude <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3.0 GPA and 19 semesters of advanced coursework ○ 3.5 GPA and 16 semesters of advanced coursework ○ 4.0 GPA and 14 semesters of advanced coursework
Sample	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GPA = 3.685 • Courses: AP Psychology (2), Pre-Calculus (2), AP US History (1), AP Calculus (2), British Lit (1), AP Lit (1), Human Anatomy (1), Chem II (1), Advanced Art Workshop (1) = 12 semesters • Calculation: $3.685 \times 12 = 44.22$, earns Magna Cum Laude

Waunakee High School Advanced Courses for Laude Recognition

Department	Semesters/Course Title
English	2 Advanced English 10 1 British Literature 1 AP Literature 1 Expository Writing
Math	2 PreCalculus/Math 4 2 AP Calculus 2 AP Statistics 2 AP Computer Science AB
Science	1 Human Anatomy 1 Biotechnology 1 AP Biology 1 Chemistry II 1 Physics II, sem 1 1 Physics II, sem 2
Social Studies	2 AP Psychology 1 AP Economics 1 AP US History
World Language	2 French V 2 Spanish V
Art	1 Advanced Art Workshop
Music	2 4 th year of band + A solo 2 4 th year of choir + A solo 2 4 th year of orchestra + A solo
Business & Marketing	2 Advanced Accounting 2 Marketing II
Tech Ed	2 Principles of Engineering 2 Engineering Design and Development
Youth Options Online AP Courses Youth Apprenticeships Distance Learning Study Abroad Transfer Credits Early Graduation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Placement courses taken online or by distance learning will be counted. • Unique situations such as those listed will be considered on an individual basis