

TAG “Q & A” for Grades 9-10 and the “Advanced Elective Flexibility Options” for *Gifted-Eligible* 11th and 12th

Grade 11 and 12, AP, GAVS, College DE Courses, and TAG Options: Flex-options for gifted students.

First, a common Email Question from TAG Testers and their parents: *I was tested and found eligible for Gifted Services. Will my class selections or my schedule change after TAG testing results?*

No, access to regular classes, including Honors-AP, does not change **unless and only if** you want to enroll in **TAG Internship** or a **TAG Directed Study** (for any ELIGIBLE GIFTED STUDENT, rising into Grades 11-12).

- (1) **Honors-AP?** AP courses are offered and widely available to all Northview students, Gifted *and* non-Gifted. Year-to-year, we have featured as many as 32 in our course catalogs, for regular classroom instruction, and as “GAVS” or Fulton Virtual courses. Entry into Honors-AP at Northview based on qualification with a prior GPA in that area pre-requisite, and a space available in that course for next year. If you did not have the grade or commitment form in by the January-February deadlines, then you must file a **Waiver** Form for the AP course in which you would like to enroll.
- (2) **College Courses of WBL?** Like AP courses, College Dual-Enrollment (DE), and Move on When Ready (MOWR College Courses) are scheduled with help and advice from the Counseling Dept. (e.g. “College English”, “GT Math”). To clarify, DE is for college-credit, but **not** a Fulton County Schools qualifying TAG Service.
 - a. College-level does NOT count as “TAG Credit” nor does the school receive funding for it. You will need to do a college funding application in advance on the GA futures website <https://www.gafutures.org/hope-state-aid-programs/scholarships-grants/dual-enrollment/>
 - b. For “career-experiences,” Gifted and non-Gifted may also enroll in WBL (which is PAID work-based learning with a work-permit), through “CTAE” (Career Tech program with Ms. Stephanie McCall).
- (3) **Gifted Options – TAG Career Internship or a TAG Directed-Study?** A Gifted-eligible 11th-12th grader may enroll in TAG Career Internship OR a TAG Directed-Study. To reiterate, this is for Gifted-Eligible students who have successfully TESTED into the Gifted Program in the State of GA, and are qualified through “GIFTED IDENTIFICATION and TESTING”

1: Gifted Career Internships for rising (11th and 12th) A TAG elective for Period 6 open in their schedule. There are some extenuating circumstances which, on occasion have put an intern into another class period (ex: 1st for elementary teacher shadow, or a surgeon – if we ever get that opportunity again, post-pandemic)

- a. First, the Fulton County Gifted Career Interns are **UNPAID**. In the “Work-Based Learning program of the Career Tech Dept., the student must have a work permit and may be PAID.
- b. For the Gifted or TAG Career Internship, students enroll in the advanced-academic elective called Gifted Internships in exchange for the opportunity to shadow adult professionals in their workplace.
- c. TAG Internships can help a student decide if they would like this college and career path. The intern is normally placed for about 10-12 weeks in one semester. Each semester is a new internship class. If the student is becoming a contributor, then if agreed upon by all parties, it may be possible for them to remain for the entire school year.
- d. *Hire Me is the FCBOE County School System “pre-requisite” PASS/FAIL or DO/DIDN’T DO without a calculated grade. It has specific curricula for prospective TAG Interns. The 10-week Hire Me seminar is simply for “TAG Credit” or “No-Credit” rather than the grade. You will register at the Microsoft Form loaded on the school website, participate in the Hire Me sessions, prepare your resume and cover letter, do career research, a networking activity, and then at pre-registration in the Spring, you must first write-in for an “elective selection” the semester course selection for “TAG Internship” (on your January Course Selection forms for the following year – knowing that you will have at least one semester slot open). A student must have an open 6th Period course slot for the following semester. You will: (1) complete Hire Me, (2) obtain recs from your teachers, and (3) interview in April with county-level placement coordinator (for a FALL START). People who start in Spring attend Hire Me in the Fall, and interview.
- e. We have had outstanding results, by putting our highest qualified seniors with professionals in this community around each student’s areas of interests or passions.

Most of the “extra-work” of collaborating, self-advocating, and reflecting on the process is assigned to the gifted student intern to catalogue and journal about, rather than to the mentors at the sites. Students will be expected to observe, journal, reflect, self-evaluate, and do 2 brief “networking interviews” with 2 professionals in the adult workplace, etc. There is limited added responsibility for site mentors, and their office managers, other than allowing our student interns negotiable responsibilities, and opportunities to contribute in ways as young professional would. Site mentors complete a short “Forms Survey” 3-4 times per semester to address about 8-10 ratings questions (Scale of 1-5) on the students work habits and behaviors, such as punctuality, manners, contributions, and self-advocacy. The students are supposed to self-advocate, schedule, and lead the conversations about their own “**SMART**” Goals for being there, which are “**Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant or Realistic, and Time-Bound.**”

Gifted Option 2: Gifted Directed Study (or Self-Directed Research) [this option that includes self-directed studies, *interest-based* and may involve virtual communications, and in-person collaboration with university faculty, and-or participation in an “open-courseware.” *Interns detailed in option above may also join research.

Prerequisites: TAG student is in good standing and his/her application has been discussed with and approved by the TAG teacher coordinating TAG Directed Studies after an introductory interview.

Description: Gifted Directed Study is an academic elective course for gifted students, which provides for carefully designed research experiences for individual TAG students under the supervision of a TAG teacher. The course is designed to encourage the development of the whole student as a researcher and problem-solver. In collaboration with a TAG teacher, the student defines and schedules the directed study by contract. Most contracted objectives are derived from the analysis, synthesis, and evaluation levels of Bloom's Taxonomy, and the processes employed include the major elements of Treffinger's creative problem-solving techniques. Flexibility-option because the whole class meetings are infrequent.

Scheduling:

1. Prior to the semester in which the directed study is to take place a TAG student wishing to initiate a directed study must complete the application process during the semester prior to taking the course. Application can be obtained in the TAG office and must be approved by the TAG teacher coordinating directed studies. At the beginning of the directed study course, the student and teacher will develop and sign a contract.
2. If academic credit is to be earned in a specific content area for a non-Advanced Placement (AP) course, the Tag Chair in the school **must** also approve and sign the contract.
3. If academic credit is to be earned in a specific content area for an Advanced Placement (AP) course, the following conditions must be met: (a) the student has an unresolvable scheduling conflict (e.g., registered for two singleton courses that meet the same period); (b) a teacher with The College Board certification agrees to assist the student; (c) department chair in the school **must** also approve and sign the contract. If AP credit is earned through a directed study and the student passes the course, the AP course will appear on the student's transcript and Fulton County Schools will pay for the AP exam. If the above conditions cannot be met, the TAG student will earn directed study elective credit and assume responsibility for paying for the AP exam.
4. If elective credit is to be earned, the contract will also be approved and signed by a TAG supervisor. If interested in this option, please email martinm1@fultonschools.org

Assignments: Directed study is normally limited to TAG juniors and seniors who have maintained an A or B average in the subject area of the Directed Study and demonstrated advanced research skills and academic independence. Other TAG students who have also demonstrated advanced research skills and academic independence will be considered. *Non-TAG students who successfully meet the requirements for a directed study as well as the conditions stated above may take a college or AP course through a directed study for academic credit.*

Overview: The course is designed for TAG students who have already demonstrated the skills needed for independent learning. It will provide the opportunity for independent investigation in a subject of interest, development of research techniques, and the practice of higher-level thinking skills: analysis, interpretation, reflection, etc.

Goals: Any one or all goals below apply.

1. To conduct extensive investigation in an area of particular interest to the student but not offered in the regular curriculum.
2. To work on an individual creative project in an area in which the student has previously demonstrated independence and expertise.
3. To complete an individualized course included in the regular curriculum but not available that semester at the local school.