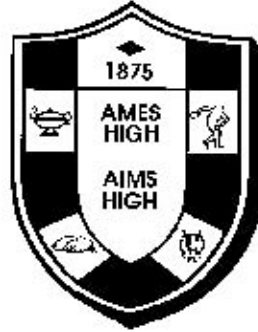


# Extended Learning Program



## ELP Philosophy: We Believe That ...

- Comprehensive services for the gifted and talented should be an integral part of the K-12 experience .
- Curriculums for talented and gifted students should be differentiated in process, pace , depth organization and the excepted outcomes .
- High ability students have social and emotional needs specific to their talents that require affective education and accommodation.
- Students should have structured opportunities to interact with peers of similar abilities and interest.
- Identification of talented and gifted youth should include multiple. Flexible and inclusive procedures and criteria. Identification should reflect an awareness of cultural and economic diversity.
- Optimal programing for talented and gifted students should include a variety of educational options such as classroom enrichment, pullouts, clustering independent study, mentorship, advanced classes, out of school programs and acceleration.

## **Welcome to ELP Extended Learning Program**

The Extended Learning Program (ELP) “serves students who require instruction and educational services commensurate with their abilities and beyond those provided by the regular school program.” (Iowa Code 257.44). Students in the Ames High ELP program demonstrate achievement or potential ability in the following areas: general intellectual ability, creative thinking, leadership ability, visual and performing arts ability, and specific ability aptitude.

Opportunities for our students include Topical Seminars, Independent Study, Mentorship and Internship, Acceleration and Post Secondary Enrollment Options.

### **Freshmen ELP Seminar Credits .10 Grade 9**

Freshman ELP Seminar is a yearlong course meeting once a week for qualified students identified for program services. Curricular topics include programming and gifted overviews, community building, autonomous learning, academic planning and college investigations.

### **ELP Independent Study Credits 1-2 Grades 9,10,11,12**

The course offers a self-directed learning experience. The student is given the opportunity to think and conceptualize at different levels. The ELP Seminar is designed to extend and refine knowledge, stimulate curiosity, and assist in active learner-directed project work. The student is given the opportunity to develop skills and investigate areas in-depth on an individual basis. A final project is required. The student will contract with the instructor on an individual basis for project activities. Application is required and is accepted throughout the academic year.

### **ELP Senior Research Seminar Credits 1-3 Grade 12**

Seminar is based on higher order research skills. Students will pursue an identified area of interest and engage in a research project under the guidance of a mentor. The course provides a structured framework in which students may do directed research and report on their findings to an interested group. Admission is by application. Students must submit a recommendation and a research proposal. Each student will be assigned

### **ELP Mentorship/Internship Credits 1-3 Grades 9,10,11,12**

Students may elect to work with a mentor on career development, learning skills and/or further investigation of the student’s interest area. The ELP internship matches students with professionals in the community. Students work in real world settings to learn interpersonal skills needed in the work place. Application is required and is accepted throughout the academic year.

### **ISU Partnerships in Research Credits 2 Grades 10,11,12**

Iowa State University professors (mentors) are offering research internship experiences in engineering and the biological and physical sciences. Application for this semester-long offering occurs in the spring of the previous academic year. Students will be accepted into the program based on mentor availability and student ability. Students must be 16 years of age to participate in this ISU program. Transportation to and from the research lab on the ISU campus will be the student's responsibility.

#### **ELP Mini-Seminars Varies Grades 9,10,11,12**

Seminars bring people together to exchange ideas and to learn. A variety of topics will be offered. Students may elect to attend as their schedules and interest allows.

#### **PSEOA Courses Varies Grades 9,10,11,12**

Post Secondary Educational Opportunity Act provides college course enrollment for qualified high school students. Application is required and deadlines are concurrent with the college calendar.

The Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) Act, [Iowa Code section 261C](#), was enacted in 1987 to promote rigorous academic pursuits and provides college course enrollment for qualified high school students by enabling eleventh and twelfth grade students to enroll part time in nonsectarian courses in eligible postsecondary institutions of higher learning in Iowa. A ninth or tenth grade student who is identified as a gifted and talented student according to the school district's criteria and procedures may now participate under this Act. The specific purposes of this Act are to promote rigorous academic pursuits and provide a wider variety of options for students. All ninth and tenth grade students must follow the acceleration process and rules. Students must visit with the ELP Coordinator for more information and forms. Deadlines are concurrent with those of the ISU academic calendar.

#### **AP Online Courses Varies Grades 9,10,11,12**

AP Statistics is available online. Application for this yearlong course is required and occurs in the spring of the previous academic year. AP Microeconomics and AP Macroeconomics are each semester courses. Application occurs prior to each semester.

#### **ELP Staff**

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ELP District Office: 817-0634                      AHS: 817-0600 ext: 0634                      Secretary - Catherine Monroe  
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It is the policy of the Ames Community School District to maintain a nondiscriminatory environment in every aspect of the operation of the District. The District will provide equal educational and employment opportunities without regard to sex, race, national origin, religion, age, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability in its educational programs and activities or its employment and personnel policies. Dr. Tim Taylor, ASCD Superintendent, is the reporting officer for affirmative action, desegregation, and discrimination. Any questions should be directed to: Dr. Tim E. Taylor, Educational Services Center, 415 Stanton Ave., Ames, IA 50014, (515) 268-6610. Revised 8-2012

**Acceleration** Acceleration provides opportunities for qualified students to access advanced content and skills beyond the average grade level curriculum standards. This may include such practice as differentiated classroom instruction, credit by examination, subject-and/or grade-acceleration, concurrent and dual enrollment, or early entrance into college.

Decisions about the appropriateness and extent of personal acceleration for a given student will be made based on defined the Ames Community School District Acceleration Process. In some instances, the Iowa Acceleration Scale (IAS) will be employed.

Please visit the Extended Learning Program's web page for a detailed overview of the district's Acceleration Policy, Process and Deadlines.

**<http://www.ames.k12.ia.us/Departments/ELP/ELP.html>**

For a comprehensive listing of AHS courses, program overviews and procedural information, please review the current Ames High School Registration Booklet available for download at the below URL.  
<http://www.ames.k12.ia.us/AHS/RegBook.html>