

Fairfield Ludlowe High School  
Fairfield Warde High School

# The Course Selection Process

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# Resources for Students/Parents

1. Program of Studies – the most thorough resource you have
2. Student assemblies
3. Conversations with teachers, counselors, curriculum leaders, administrators
4. Course Selection Night, January 31– all materials posted online
5. Informational website:

[www.fairfieldschools.org/highschoolcourse\\_selection.html](http://www.fairfieldschools.org/highschoolcourse_selection.html)

(Includes: Course descriptions, AP syllabi, AP sample tasks and exemplary student work samples, Table of time commitment expectations for each class)

# Goals for All Students

- Develop and enhance critical thinking skills
- Solve problems of increasing complexity
- Analyze and synthesize information
- Apply knowledge/skills to new and different situations
- Become more independent learners and self-advocates

# Expectations for each Level

- Level 2: (College Preparatory)
  - Reading material at grade level
  - Complexity of the material and work expectation at grade level
- Level 1 (Honors)
  - Reading material above grade level
  - Complexity of the material and work expectation above grade level
  - Accelerated pace
- Advanced Placement
  - Equivalent to a freshman college course in a major
  - Reading material at the college/university level
  - Significant volume of independent work
  - Level of synthesis, critical thinking and problem solving significantly above that of a high school course
  - Very rapid pace

# MATHEMATICS

8th

Pre-  
Algebra

Algebra  
I

9th

Algebra  
I

Geometry

10th

Geometry

Algebra  
II

11th

Algebra  
II

Pre-Calc

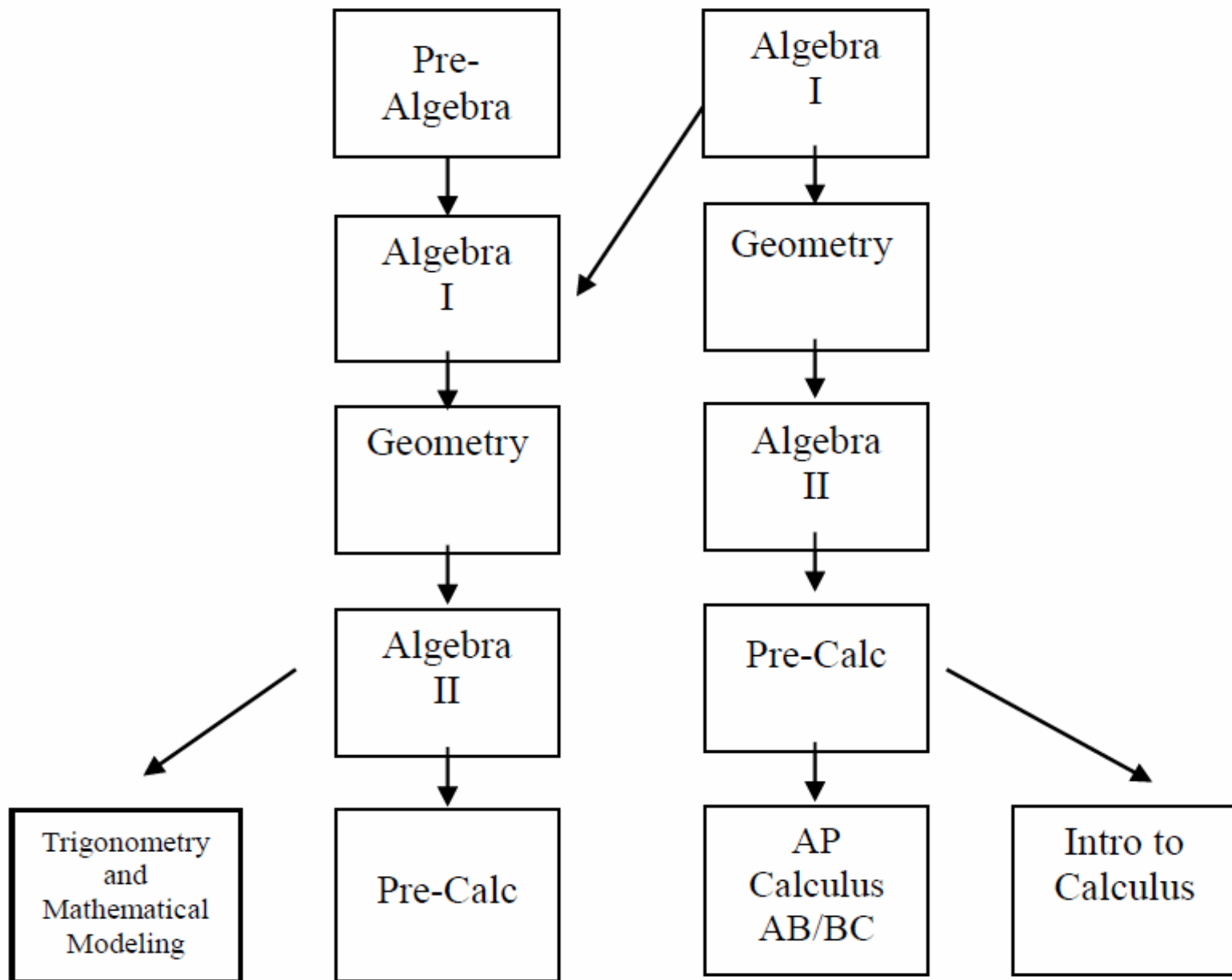
12th

Trigonometry  
and  
Mathematical  
Modeling

Pre-Calc

AP  
Calculus  
AB/BC

Intro to  
Calculus



# COMPARISON AMONG LEVELS OF MATHEMATICS

- AP Calculus AB and BC
  - 5-6 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- AP Statistics
  - 4-6 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- Level 1 courses
  - 3-6 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- Level 2 courses
  - 1.5-2 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- Level 0 courses
  - 1.5-3 hrs per week (average) outside of class time

## ENGLISH

<b>Grade 9</b>	English 11			English 12
<b>Grade 10</b>	English 21			English 22
<b>Grade 11</b>	American Cultural Studies 31	AP American Studies	AP Language and Composition	American Cultural Studies 32
<b>Grade 12</b>	AP Literature	English 41		English 42
	Senior English Elective Semester Courses *			

*\* Available to all seniors as the required English courses or in addition to other English courses. Also available to juniors in addition to their required full year course.*

# COMPARISON AMONG LEVELS OF ENGLISH

- AP Literature and Composition
  - 7-10 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
  - Summer assignment
- AP Language and Composition and AP American Studies
  - 6-9 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
  - Summer assignment
- Level 1 courses
  - 4-6 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- Level 2 courses
  - 2.5-4 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- Level 0 courses
  - 3-5 hrs per week (average) outside of class time

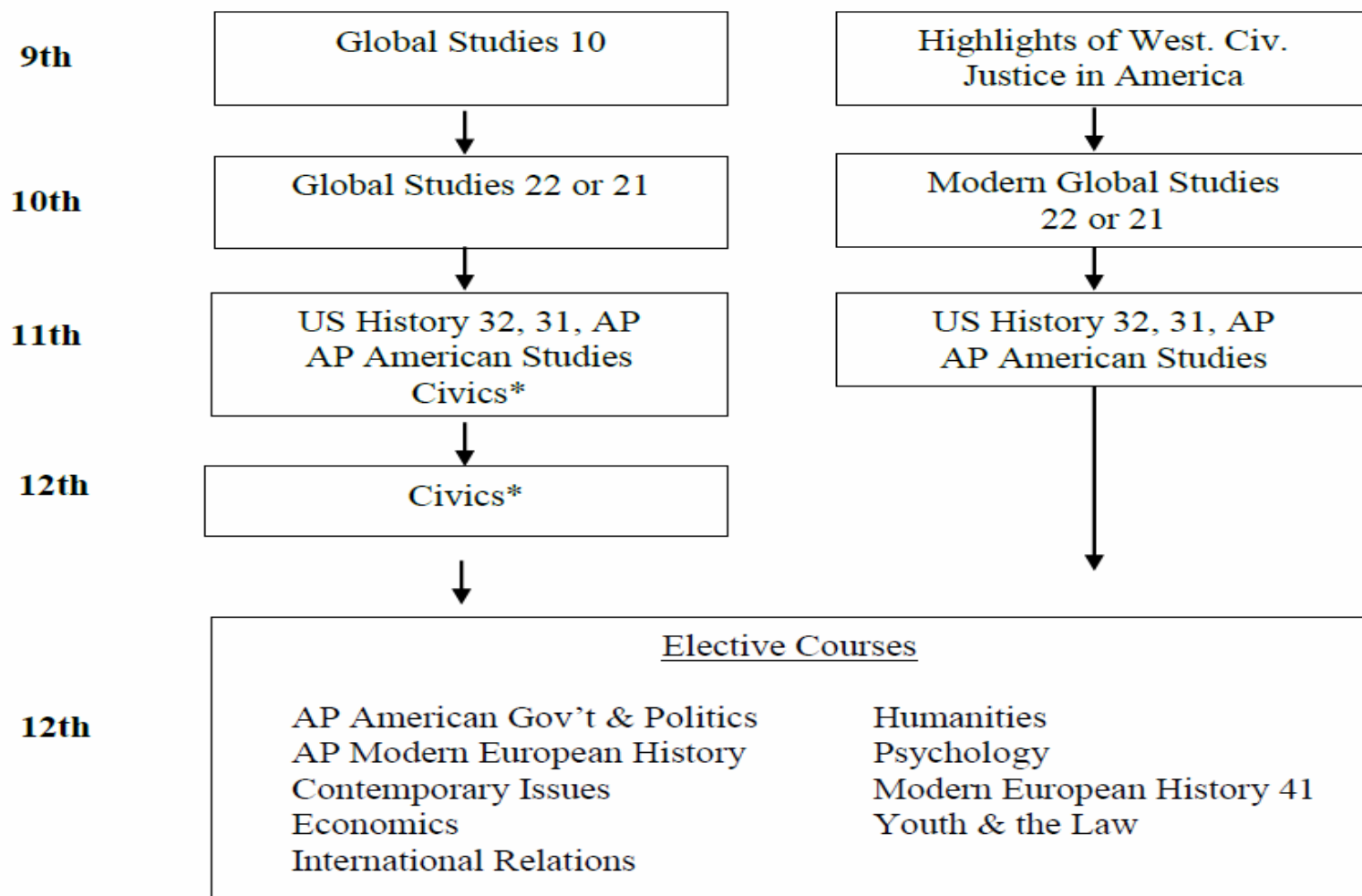


## SOCIAL STUDIES

Starting with the class of 2015, students will be required to complete three and one-half years of social studies which will follow a new scope and sequence of courses (left-hand column).

9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grades  
(7 Credit Requirement)

11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grades  
(6 Credit Requirement)

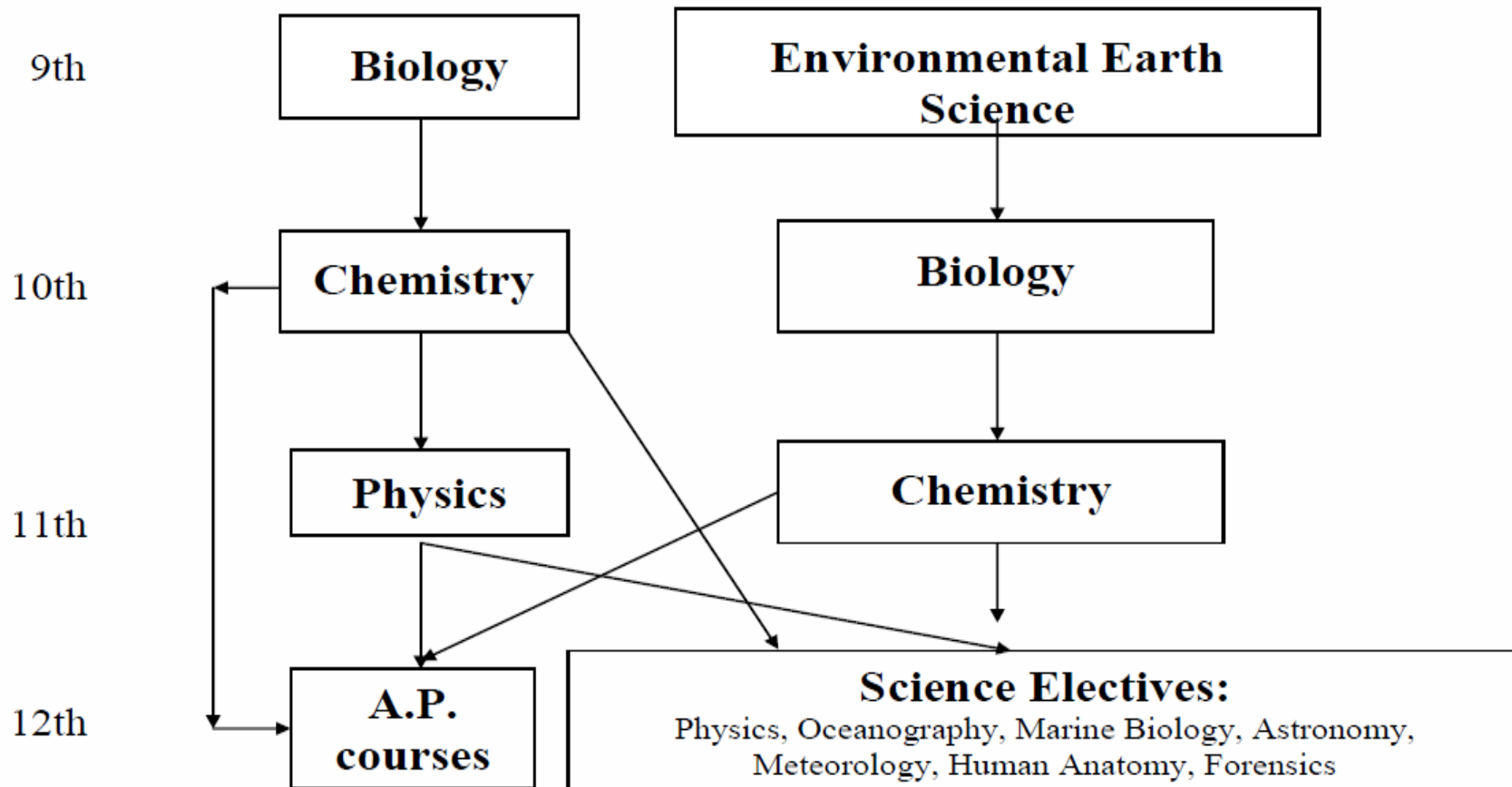


**\*1 semester of civics may be taken in either 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade**

# COMPARISON AMONG LEVELS OF SOCIAL STUDIES

- AP Government and Politics
  - 5-7 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
  - Summer assignment
- AP Modern European History
  - 4-7 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
  - Summer assignment
- AP American Studies
  - 6-9 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
  - Summer assignment
- AP United States History
  - 6-8 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
  - Summer assignment
- Level 1 courses
  - 3-4 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- Level 2 courses
  - 2-3 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- Level 0 courses
  - 1.5-3 hrs per week (average) outside of class time

# SCIENCE

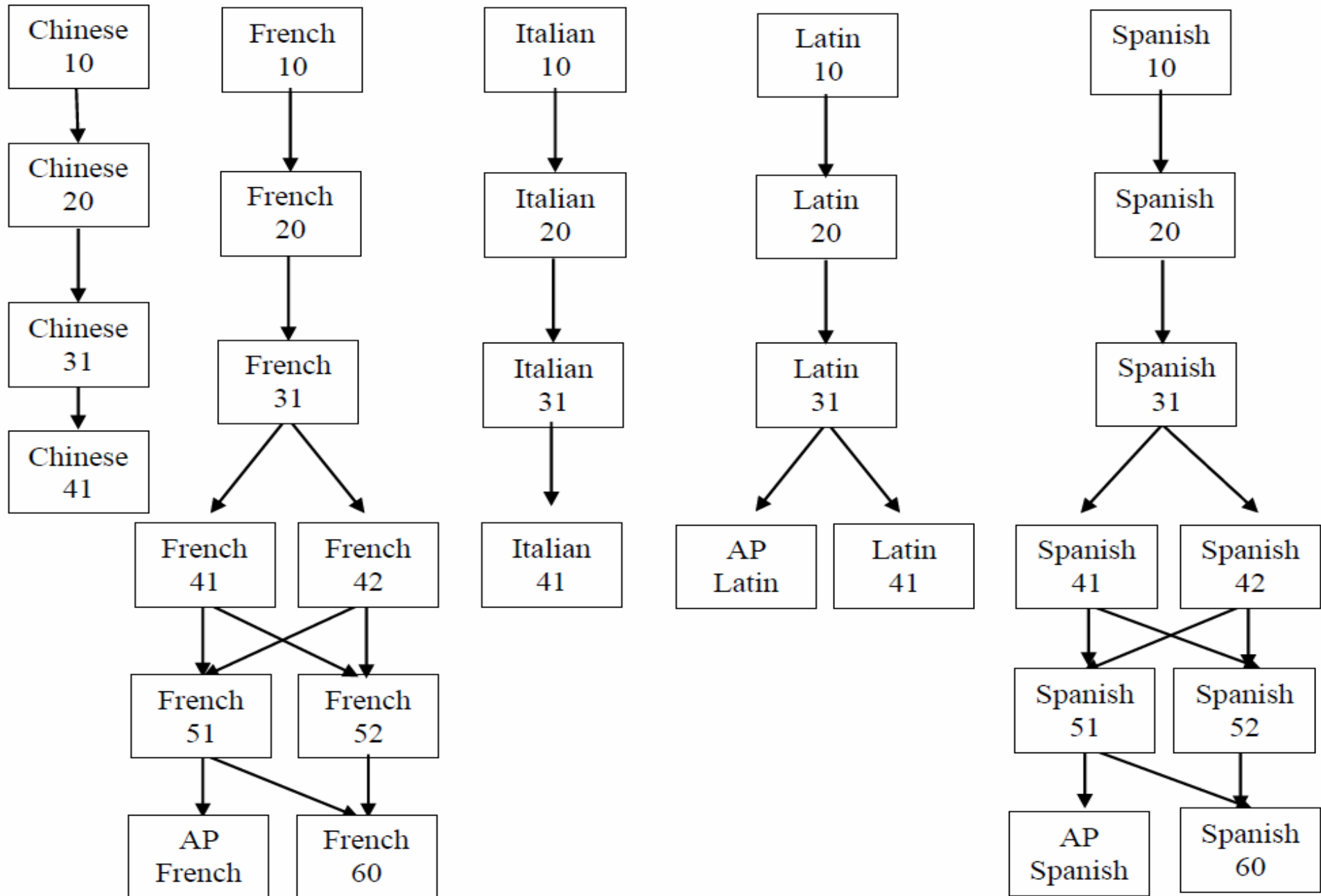


# COMPARISON AMONG LEVELS OF SCIENCE

- **AP Environmental Science, Biology, Chemistry, Physics**
  - 7-10 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
  - Most courses have summer assignments
- **Level 1 courses**
  - 3-4 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- **Level 2 courses**
  - 1.5-2 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- **Level 0 courses**
  - 1.5-2 hrs per week (average) outside of class time

# WORLD LANGUAGES

## Course Sequence



# COMPARISON AMONG LEVELS OF WORLD LANGUAGE

- **AP French, Spanish, Latin**
  - 5-8 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
  - Most courses have summer assignments
- **Level 1 courses**
  - 3-6 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- **Level 2 courses**
  - 2-4 hrs per week (average) outside of class time
- **Level 0 courses**
  - 2-4 hrs per week (average) outside of class time

# The Process

## 1. Get Informed

- Read the Program Of Studies and course information posted online, speak with your teachers
- Course information night
- Class meetings

## 2. Complete the Course Selection Sheet with your requests

- Be sure all information is accurate and complete
- Week of February 4 – 8: Teachers will spend class time discussing department courses and their recommendations, and signing Course Selection Sheet
- Sign your form when completed
- Obtain your parent's signature
- Turn your completed signed sheet into your school counselor on or before February 11, 2013

# The Process

## 3. Review your requests with your school counselor

- Schedule an appointment between February 11 and 28<sup>th</sup>
- Enter your final selections into the Infinite Campus Student system (with counselor's assistance)

## 4. Final Step

- Print out Final Course Request Form from Infinite Campus (web site to be announced)
- Sign and obtain your parent's signature on the Final Request Form
- Return to your school counselor on or before MARCH 1, 2013



# Changing/Dropping Courses

Once schedules are finalized, counselors will make changes for the following reasons only:

- An incomplete schedule or insufficient credits
- A course scheduled in error by the school
- An *approved* level change
- Changes needed as the result of courses failed
- Changes needed as the result of summer school work

# Calendar for Changing/Dropping Courses

- Course changes will not be approved during the first two weeks of school (except for reasons posted on previous slide).
- After the *fifth* week of any course, any changes will result in a grade of “W” (withdrawn) which will appear on your transcript—this applies even to level changes. This will not impact GPA.

# Rationale for Change/Drop Policy

- Our goal is to provide students and teachers with balanced classes.
- Multiple changes to a schedule causes students to miss critical information shared in the initial days the course meets.
- Even a single change can affect enrollment in multiple courses, increasing disruption.
- We build the master schedule from student course requests, so it is important to have accurate counts.
- Our process is providing students with more opportunity and responsibility to build their schedule – and we are looking to foster commitment to original requests.