

Santa Barbara Unified School District

Administrative Regulation

Instruction

AR 6155

CHALLENGING COURSES BY EXAMINATION

Petition to Challenge Course

Currently enrolled students and entering ninth-grade students and new enrollees interested in challenging a course shall file a petition form with their counselor. The course that currently offers a challenge examination is aligned with district curriculum high school health.

A student wishing to challenge a course for which the district does not offer a standard challenge examination may file a petition with their school counselor. The counselor shall inform the course instructor of the student's intent to challenge the course. The student shall be allowed to challenge the course by examination if his/her petition is signed by the counselor, department chair, and parent/guardian. The student's petition shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Grades in courses of the subject area of the challenge
2. Recommendations from a teacher
3. Substitute courses to be taken by the student if he/she successfully challenges a course
4. Student's rationale or reasons for challenging a specific course

If a petition is denied, an appeal can be made to the principal of the school in which the student is enrolled. Following a denial at the school level an appeal may be made to the Superintendent or designee and that decision shall be final.

A student may challenge a particular course twice.

Test Content, Administration and Grading

The principal and department chairpersons shall collaborate with teachers in the development of appropriate district-wide testing procedures and materials for the classes that may be challenged within each department. California State Standards and frameworks shall determine the content and the type of evaluation to be used. The examination may be written, oral, by demonstration, or any combination thereof.

The type of test administered shall depend on the course outline. The department chairperson or designee shall supervise the administration and evaluation of tests pertaining to the department.

A student must earn an A or B to receive credit for challenging a course by examination. The transcript shall reflect that the grade was earned by challenge. If the challenge exam was taken to replace a previous grade in a course and the exam was passed, the grade will be directly replaced with no extra credits being assigned. If the challenge exam was taken prior to taking a course, then the grade received in the challenge exam and the normal credits assigned for the course shall be entered on the transcript. If the challenge exam was not passed with an A or B, no action will be taken and no credit applied.

Regulation: SANTA BARBARA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
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