

PROGRAM IN AMERICA AND CALIFORNIA EXPLORATIONS (PACE)



John F. Kennedy High School

6715 Gloria Drive | Sacramento, CA 95831

Todd Whalen, Program Director: todd-whalen@scusd.edu

916-395-5090 ext. 506326 | www.jfkpace.org

Preparing students to be successful in college and beyond.

The Program in America and California Explorations (PACE) is a small learning community at John F. Kennedy High School. PACE is a California themed college preparation program with an emphasis on Advanced Placement courses. The goal is to ensure that all PACE students are prepared to attend and succeed at competitive four-year colleges and universities. Each PACE student takes a rigorous college-prep curriculum and uniquely designed English and history courses with an emphasis on California history, government, and literature, emphasizing writing across the curriculum. PACE English and social science classes are blocked in the freshman year and follow a modified block in the sophomore year. Junior and senior English and social sciences classes are traditional schedule and most PACE students are with the same English and social science teachers, so students benefit from a close-knit environment of a small learning community, yet have access to all the benefits of a large school.



WHAT I LIKE
ABOUT **my**
program



“PACE certainly put me through a **constant routine of work and thought processes that made the transition to a college education seamless.**”

– Jared Y., PACER
graduate of UC Santa Barbara

“**PACE prepared me for a strong academic performance**

my freshman year of college and beyond.”

– Danny H., PACER
graduate of UC Berkeley

PACE Student Outcomes

- 100% of PACERs take a minimum of four Advanced Placement courses during their high school experience.
- Since the first PACE class graduated in 2006, 99% of all PACERs have gone on to attend college:
 - 31% have attended a University of California
 - 28% have attended a California State University
 - 11% have attended a private California university or out-of-state university
 - 29% have attended a community college
 - 1% have entered the military

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	9 th GRADE	10 th GRADE	11 th GRADE	12 th GRADE
COURSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PACE History 9 • Advanced English 9 • Molecular Biology • Appropriate Level Math • World Language Level 1 • Physical Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP World History • Advanced English 10 • Appropriate Level Science • Appropriate Level Math • World Language Level 2 • Physical Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP or Honors US History • AP English Language and Composition • Appropriate Level Science • Appropriate Level Math • World Language Level 3 • Fine Art 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP Government/Economics • AP English Literature and Composition or Honors English 12P • Appropriate Level Science • Appropriate Level Math • Elective
SUMMER PROGRAM	<p>Incoming 9th graders, mandatory 3-week program at California State University, Sacramento</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature • Writing for the Academic Voice • Writing for the Artistic Voice • Geography 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP World History prep (optional) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP/Honors US History prep (optional) 	
OTHER UNIQUE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES	<p>FIELD TRIPS Students attend one or more field trips per year. Field trips have included university tours, live theatrical productions, history and art museum visits, state park outings, and explorations of historical sites. Also, out of the region field trips (such as tours of East coast colleges, Ashland's Shakespeare Festival, Europe, Asia, and South America) are offered.</p> <p>SPEAKER SERIES Students are given the opportunity to attend question and answer sessions with prominent leaders. Past speakers have included Ron George, Chief Justice of the California Supreme Court, Phil Angelides, State Treasurer of California, Doris Matsui, Congresswoman from Sacramento, Sister Helen Prejean, and Bob Graham, former US Senator and Governor of Florida.</p> <p>COMMUNITY SERVICE A PACE education encompasses not only academic rigor, but also citizenship through social responsibility. A community service requirement (30 hours per school year) encourages PACE students to learn about matters outside the classroom and provides them the opportunity to give back to their community.</p> <p>CULTURAL/CIVIC EVENTS Students are required once each semester to attend a cultural or civic event and write a reflective essay about their experiences. Attending these events provides opportunities for students to learn more about their community and to expand their cultural and civic horizons, and to articulate their perspectives.</p> <p>BOOK CLUB Students in grades 9 and 10 participate in several small-group book clubs led by community volunteers. This allows an opportunity for detailed discussion of works of important and popular literature in an informal setting.</p> <p>INTERNSHIPS The Practical Politics Internship allows seniors to gain firsthand experience in government by working at city, county, or state agencies, including the governor's office. The program has recently expanded to the private sector, with internships at a pharmacy, architectural firm, financial planning office, and other places of business in the Greenhaven and Sacramento area.</p>			

PROGRAM ADMISSION CRITERIA

- Recommended GPA of 3.00 or above at the time of application
- Recommended 7th grade CAASPP score of 2550 or higher in ELA and math
- One short essay
- Two recommendation forms – one from a history or English teacher and another from a math or science teacher



PARTNERS

California State University, Sacramento – Honors Program

The Sacramento City Unified School District prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying based on actual or perceived ancestry, age, color, disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, parental, family, or marital status, or association with a person or a group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

