



# OnRamps Courses

Currently Offered At Clements High School

2026-2027

A photograph of the Statue of Liberty on Liberty Island, with the New York City skyline in the background. The statue is green and stands on a stone pedestal. The city skyline includes several tall skyscrapers, with the Freedom Tower being the most prominent. The water of the harbor is visible in the foreground, and the sky is overcast with grey clouds. The text "US History vs. US History OnRamps vs. AP US History" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the center of the image.

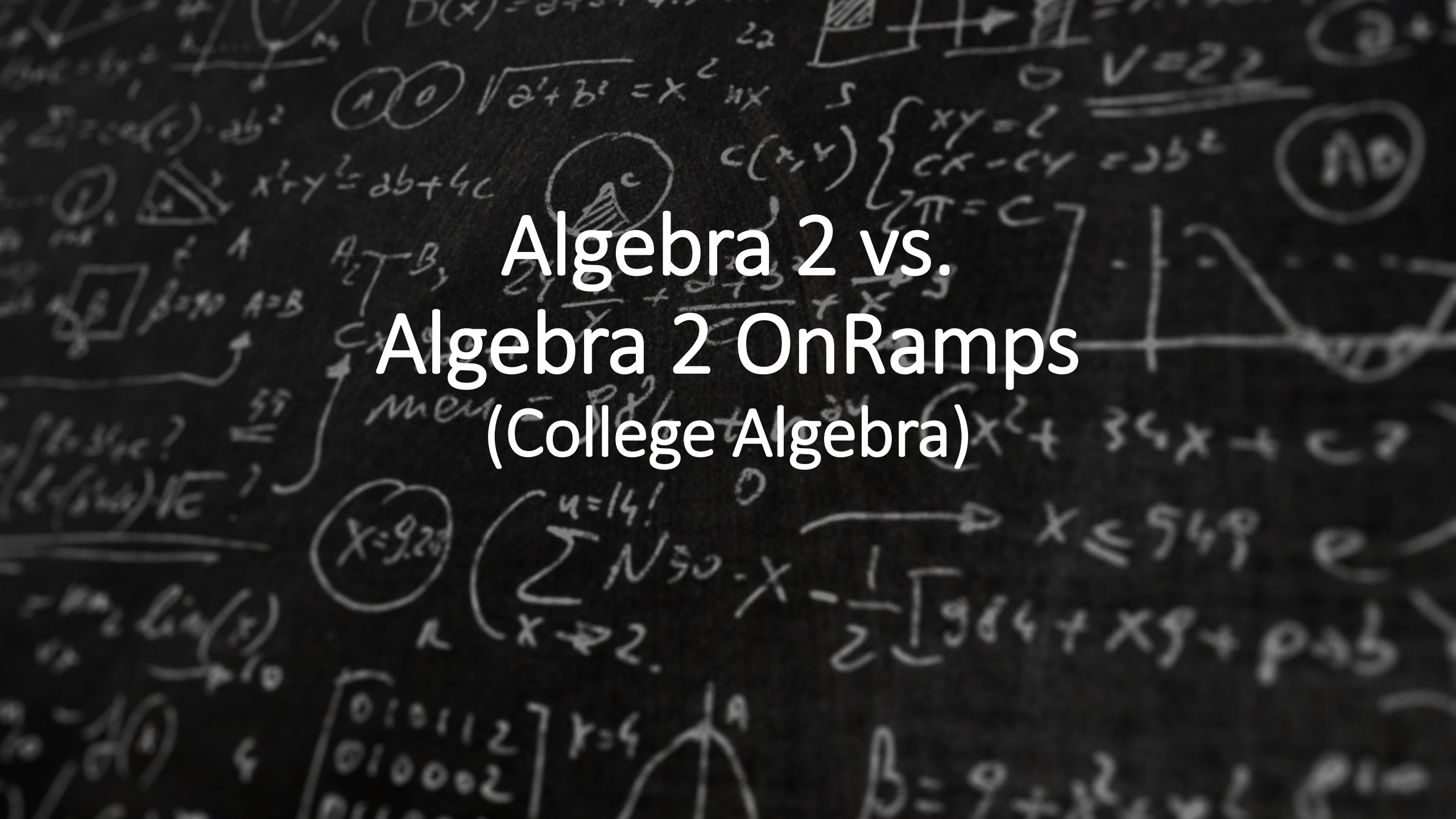
# US History vs. US History OnRamps vs. AP US History

# U.S. History Class Comparison Chart

	On Level U.S. History	On Ramps U.S. History	AP U.S. History
Number Days Lecturing Per Week*	3-4 days week	One dedicated lecture day per week, mini-lectures any Non-Quiz day.	2-3 days a week
Homework*	None except to study	Frequent-Weekly 2+ hours for readings & Study Guides. Homework is pre-assigned but must be completed to participate in class.	Weekly 2 hours for outlines plus extra time to study
Style of tests*	Multiple choice, with review games	Multiple Choice, Matching, and Essay Questions.	Matching and stimulus multiple choice, review games posted
Writing	Short answer (usually 2-3 sentences)	Research Essay, two styles of longer essays required for Midterm & Final	3 different essay styles (Short answer, DBQ, and long essay)
End of year test	STAAR EOC Test	UT Final Exams & STAAR EOC	STAAR EOC Test and AP Exam
GPA bump	No	Yes	Yes
College credit	No	Yes; based on College Grade. (UT College Grade is not identical to your Skyward grade.)	Yes, if you get a qualifying score on the AP Exam in May
Can you level down?	No	Yes, to on level only within a specific time frame with a grade lower than a 75 in the CHS course. Skyward grade transfers down.	Yes, to on level only within a specific time frame with a grade lower than 75. Skyward grade transfers down.
Years Covered	1877 – Present	HIS 315 K (Fall): 1492-1865 HIS 315 L (Spring): 1865-Present	1491 – Present

\* = Changes may occur at teachers' discretion.



The background is a dark, textured surface covered with various handwritten mathematical expressions and diagrams in white. These include algebraic equations like  $\sqrt{a^2+b^2} = x^2 \ln x$ ,  $x^2+y^2 = ab+4c$ ,  $xy=2$ ,  $cx-cy=25^2$ ,  $2\pi=C$ ,  $x^2+34x+c=0$ ,  $x \leq 549$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}[984+xg+pab]$ ,  $\sum N_{30} \cdot x$ ,  $x=9.20$ ,  $x=4$ ,  $\beta=9+x^2$ , and  $\beta=9+x^2+2$ . There are also geometric diagrams, including a triangle, a circle, and a coordinate plane with a curve. Some text is circled, such as  $(10)$ ,  $(10)$ , and  $(10)$ .

# Algebra 2 vs. Algebra 2 OnRamps (College Algebra)



	OnRamps College Algebra (Algebra 2 credit for FBISD)	Algebra 2 AAC
<b>Course credit</b>	<p>Students have the opportunity to earn college credit upon completion of the course. Their UT grade and CHS grades are not necessarily the same. Students will choose to accept the college grade or decline it. Students are earning credit for M301, the lowest level math class that UT offers. It equates to 3 college hours. Students will need to research if that class transfers to colleges of their choice or if they would even need it for the degree plan.</p> <p>There is not an AP test at the end of the year.</p>	This is not a college credit class.
<b>GPA</b>	Students earn 10 points.	Students earn 5 points.
<b>Cost</b>	At present, the course fee is paid by the district, so it is free for families.	Also free
<b>Instructional Model</b>	<p>This is an IBL class, Inquiry Based Learning.</p> <p>From UT:            “Inquiry-Based Learning (IBL) is a student-centered approach to learning. IBL puts the focus of learning on student creation, exploration, communication, and criticism while still under the guidance of the teacher. Inquiry teaching practices facilitate deeper critical thinking of students in mathematics and science. In the inquiry model, teachers act as facilitators in the classroom.”</p> <p>This course is <u>not</u> a Flipped Classroom like Chemistry. We do not have videos to watch at home. The exploration, inquiry, and presentations are done in class with the teacher.</p>	<p>From FBISD:            “The instructional model for mathematics is the Concrete-Representational-Abstract Model (CRA). The CRA model allows students to access mathematics content first through a concrete approach (“doing” stage) then representational (“seeing” stage) and then finally abstract (“symbolic” stage). The CRA model allows students to conceptually develop concepts so they have a deeper understanding of the mathematics and are able to apply and transfer their understanding across concepts and contents. The CRA model is implemented in grades K-12 in FBISD.”</p>
<b>Calculators</b>	Calculators are not permitted on lessons, homework, or assessment (except for a couple lessons where the calculator skill is what is being taught).	Calculators are rarely used, very similar to the OnRamps course.

	OnRamps College Algebra (Algebra 2 credit for FBISD)	Algebra 2 AAC
<b>College Readiness</b>	<p>The OnRamps course also focuses on college preparedness skills. Students complete three Learning Strategies modules about topics like study groups, preparing for exams, and growth mindset.</p> <p>In addition, OnRamps does NOT provide test reviews and directs instructors to do the same. The goal is for students to learn to create their own assessment reviews.</p>	The AAC class is a more traditional high school course.
<b>Homework</b>	<p>Nightly homework should be expected.</p> <p>In addition to CHS homework, students will also have periodic College Homework and Exercise Assessments from UT.</p>	Nightly homework should be expected.
<b>Rigor</b>	<p>OnRamps has an additional unit on Matrix Operations that is not in the AAC course. Because of time limitations some of the topics will not go into as much depth as the AAC course.</p> <p>The OnRamps course will essentially end in April to close out college grades. I then use the month of May to supplement topics to make sure students are prepared for AP Pre Cal or OnRamps Pre Cal.</p> <p>This course is MUCH closer to the rigor of the AAC course compared to on-level Algebra 2. OnRamps focuses on problem solving and conceptual development and understanding.</p>	The AAC class is extremely rigorous due to the volume of material that needs to be covered.
<b>Accommodations</b>	<p>When taking UT assessments, students MUST complete the test in one sitting. Students with extra time accommodations must make arrangements to miss part of their next class or complete it all after school.</p> <p>Students apply for their accommodations with UT, but UT does not necessarily offer all accommodations that students would receive in high school. There is not extended time given for assignments, no modified assignments, no small group testing, etc.</p>	Students receive their allowed accommodations from CHS.



# Chemistry Chemistry AAC Chemistry OnRamps



	ON-LEVEL CHEMISTRY 1	ONRAMPS CHEMISTRY 1	AAC CHEMISTRY 1
<b>Number of Days Lecturing Per Week</b>	3-4 days per week	0-1 days per week in class – focus on practice and activities during class time	3-4 days per week
<b>Homework</b>	3-4 days per week	Frequent: Approximately 2 hours of lecture modules or lab modules completed at home each week.	Suggested homework on lecture days. 25 question graded homework due at the end of each unit.
<b>Style of tests</b>	Multiple choice	Multiple choice	Multiple choice and free response
<b>Lab Experience</b>	Labs completed in class with short observation-based analysis.	6 college style labs completed in class with multiple days of analysis. Lab reports written in CER format.	Labs completed in class with data and observation-based analysis and extension questions.
<b>GPA Bump</b>	No	Yes (+10)	Yes (+5)
<b>College Credit</b>	No	Yes – 4 credit hours; based on UT College Grade (not identical to grade in Skyward)	No
<b>Can you level down?</b>	No	Yes, to on level only within a specific time frame with a grade lower than a 75 in the CHS Course. Skyward grade transfers down.	Yes, to on level only within a specific time frame with a grade lower than a 75 in the CHS Course. Skyward grade transfers down.

# How Can College Credit be Earned for Chemistry?





	Pathway 1: OnRamps Chemistry 1 followed by OnRamps Chemistry 2	Pathway 2: AAC or On-Level Chemistry 1 followed by AP Chemistry
<b>Time to receive 1 year of credit</b>	2 school years	2 school years
<b>Option to earn only 1 semester of credit</b>	Yes – you can choose to take OnRamps Chemistry 1 but not OnRamps Chemistry 2 and still earn up to 4 credit hours.	No. Taking only AAC or On-Level Chemistry 1 earns no college credit.
<b>How is credit earned?</b>	Credit is based on the student's University of Texas college grade. There is no end of year test aside from normal midterms/finals.	Credit is earned by earning a minimum score on the AP exam.
<b>How is credit transferred to colleges?</b>	Students can request that their UT transcript is sent to their college. Credit value is based on the policies of the receiving college.	Students can request that their AP score is sent to their college. Credit value is based on the policies of the receiving college.
<b>Cost</b>	None – fees are covered by FBISD.	Students must pay for the AP exam if they choose to take it.





# Economics Course Comparison

	 <b>OnRamps ECO 304K</b>	 <b>CollegeBoard AP Macroeconomics</b>
<b>Content Covered</b>	<b>Microeconomics</b> = Study of individual choices, firms, and specific markets <i>(supply/demand, pricing)</i> *Content designed by UT Professors*	<b>Macroeconomics</b> = Study of economics on a global scale and how it impacts government policies <i>(GDP, inflation, unemployment, policies)</i>
<b>Class Structure</b>	<b>FLIPPED CLASSROOM</b> - Students are expected to learn new material daily <i>BEFORE</i> class. In-class is for activities and checks for understanding	<b>TRADITIONAL CLASSROOM</b> - Material learned during class with activities and checks for understanding inside and outside of class.
<b>Number Days Lecturing Per Week*</b>	4-5 mini-lectures (5-10 minutes)/ check for understandings per week	2-3 days a week
<b>Homework*</b>	Textbook Reading (3-8 pages) and lecture videos (10-25 minutes total) from UT professors DAILY. Crucial to success in class!	Rarely assigned for grade; Studying and optional Schoology additional practice is highly encouraged
<b>Style of Tests*</b>	<i>All Tests are created by UT Professors</i> High School Tests- All MCQ UT College Tests- MCQ and Short-Answer Questions graded by UT	AP Style MCQ and FRQ ( <i>Free-Response Question</i> )
<b>End of Year Test</b>	UT Final (End of April)	AP Test (Early May)
<b>GPA Bump</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>College Credit</b>	Yes, based on UT College Grade ( <i>usually not identical to Skyward grade</i> )	Yes, if a qualifying score on the AP Test is earned ( <i>a score of 3 will generally earn college credit</i> )
<b>Can You Level Down?</b>	Yes, to on-level within a specific time frame with a grade lower than a 75% in the CHS course (Skyward grade).	Yes, to on-level within a specific time frame with a grade lower than a 75% in Skyward.