

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

The Advanced Placement Program is administered by College Board. Colleges and Universities have varying policies regarding acceptance of Advanced Placement grades. Students should contact the individual schools they are considering in order to garner specific details. Each AP course requires at least one hour of homework daily. It is a college level course. **Students applying for acceptance into an AP course must consider the stringent expectations, independent nature of study, and heavy workload before course selection is completed. Students also must understand that they are not permitted to drop an AP class after the first week of August.**

Students interested in Advanced Placement courses must apply to the specific Department Chair. Final approval is determined by the Department Chair and the Assistant Principal for Academic Affairs. In addition, students enrolled in Advanced Placement Courses are required to:

1. Complete Advanced Placement summer assignment(s).
  2. Take the Advanced Placement Examination as prepared by College Board. The cost of each exam, determined by College Board, is the responsibility of the student. The approximate cost for each exam as of May 2018 is \$94.
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## ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

#### 144 Advanced Placement Language and Composition (1 Cr, AP, Grade 11)

This course is open only to selected students (Rising Juniors) who have demonstrated their readiness for college-level work.

***PREREQUISITE: Entrance Test Required. Department Chair approval based on:***

***Entrance Test results, previous and current ELA Grades, PSAT Scores, Performance Series Scores, class rank, teacher recommendation***

The AP Language and Composition course adheres to the recommended outline suggested by The College Entrance Examination Board. Using a college-level text, the course provides a comprehensive review of grammar, paragraph structure, the drafting of a thesis, essay organization, word choice, and sentence rhetoric. All students in the course are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Language and Composition prepared by College Board.

### 145 Advanced Placement Literature and Composition (1 Cr, AP, Grade 12)

This course is open only to selected students (Rising Seniors) who have demonstrated their readiness for college level work.

***PREREQUISITE: Entrance Test Required. Department Chair approval based on:***

***Entrance Test results, previous and current ELA Grades, PSAT Scores, Performance Series Scores, class rank, teacher recommendation***

The AP English Course adheres to the recommended outline suggested by The College Entrance Examination Board. Through group study and independent research, students are given opportunities to develop or sharpen the skills required by composition, creative writing, and literary analysis. Course content features representative works by major writers drawn from all forms of literature. One goal of the course will be to equip students with the personal confidence needed to make reasoned, critical responses to all modes of artistic expression. All students in the course are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in Literature and English Composition, prepared by College Board.

**SOCIAL STUDIES: Prerequisite for Social Studies Advanced Placement courses:**

***Current and previous grades in ELA and in Social Studies, Performance Series scores, class rank, writing sample***

### 220 Advanced Placement American Government & Politics (1 Cr, AP, Grade 10)

Prerequisite: Department Chairperson Approval

Course content includes the Constitutional underpinnings of American Democracy: a focus on Congress, the Presidency, Bureaucracy, and Federal Courts as institutions and as policy formulators; Political Parties and Interest Groups as mechanisms that facilitate the communication of interests and preferences by like-minded citizens; the political beliefs and resultant behavior patterns of individuals; and Civil liberties/Civil Rights. All selected students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination in American Government and Politics prepared by College Board.

### 230 Advanced Placement US History (1Cr, AP, Grade 11)

This course presents an in-depth analysis of the American development from the Colonial Period to the present. Students will work both collaboratively and independently, while analyzing the economic, political, and social forces at work in the American experience. Course content includes interpretive articles on major periods (e.g. The American Revolution, Jeffersonian-Jacksonian Democracy, the Civil War Era, America as a World Power). Students will be required to take the AP American History examination.

### 250 Advanced Placement Psychology (1 Cr, AP, Grade 12)

This course will explore various topics such as human personality & behavior, human development, the human brain, social psychology, and mental illness. This course requires extensive writing and research. Accepted students are required to take the AP Psychology Exam prepared by College Board.

## MATHEMATICS

### 360 Advanced Placement Calculus (1 Cr, AP Grade 12)

***Prerequisite: Entrance Test required during Junior year, and Department approval based on math grades, class rank, PSAT scores, and Performance Series scores.***

This course is a more in-depth approach to the topics covered in Honors Level Calculus. All students electing to take this course will be required to take the Advanced Placement Calculus examination prepared by College Board.

## SCIENCE

***Prerequisite for all AP Science courses: Current and previous Math/Science course grades, class rank, Performance Series scores.***

### 440, Advanced Placement Chemistry (1Cr, AP, Grade 11,12)

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, Algebra II, (concurrent or completed), Department Chair Approval.

The Advanced Placement course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first year of college. The emphasis in this course will be on chemical calculations. In addition, AP Chemistry also offers a laboratory experience equivalent to that of a typical college chemistry course. A written review assignment will be assigned to be completed during this summer preceding the course. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination prepared by College Board.

### 438, Advanced Placement Biology (1Cr, AP, Grade 11,12)

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, and Department Chair approval.

The Advanced Placement Biology course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course. This course differs significantly from the usual first high school course in biology with respect to the kind of textbook used, the range and depth of topics covered, and the time and effort required of students. AP Biology can be taken by students after very successful completions of a first course in biology and one in chemistry as well. It aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapid changing science of biology. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination prepared by College Board.

### 435, Advanced Placement Environmental Science (1 Cr, AP, Grade 11,12)

Prerequisite: Biology, Chemistry, Algebra II, and Department Chair approval.

The goal of the AP Environmental Science is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Students are required to take the Advanced Placement Examination prepared by College Board.

### 465 Advanced Placement Physics 1 (1 Cr, AP, Grade 11,12)

The course covers Newtonian mechanics; work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound. It will also introduce electric circuits and explore these topics at the college level. This course is recommended for students who have strong Algebra, Geometry, and PreCalculus skills and who are considering careers in Science, Engineering, Technology or Medicine (can be taken in lieu of Honors Physics). Students with average math skills who wish to take this course should take physics in their junior year in preparation for AP Physics 1. Calculator required for this course. Students are required to take the AP Physics 1 exam prepared by College Board.

### **BUSINESS COMMUNICATIONS/INFORMATIONAL TECHNOLOGY (BCIT)**

#### 650 Advanced Placement Computer Science Principles (APCSP)(1 Cr, AP, Grade 11, 12)

Note: Grade 12 students are given preference.

This course introduces students to the central ideas of computing and computer science, ideas and practices of computational thinking, and applications of computer science that have changed our world. APCSP is a course designed for all students, regardless of STEM background or intended college major or career plans. Themes include Computing Innovation, Internet Systems Programming in several languages, Data, Creativity, Algorithms, Abstraction.

Students are required to produce projects for submission to College Board as well as take the APCSP examination in May.