

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses Give Students an Edge on College

"The best indicator of college and workplace success is the rigor of a student's high school courses."
--- U.S. Department of Education's Office of Educational Research---

What is the AP Program?

The Advanced Placement Program (AP) is a collaborative effort between motivated students, dedicated teachers, and committed high schools, colleges, and universities, which allows millions of students to take college-level courses and exams and to earn college credit or placement while still in high school. Most colleges and universities in the U.S., as well as colleges and universities in 21 other countries, have an AP policy granting incoming students credit, placement, or both on the basis of their AP Exam grades. Many of these institutions grant up to a full year of college credit (sophomore standing) to students who earn a sufficient number of qualifying AP grades.

What are the benefits of taking AP courses?

AP courses help students gain the skills and study habits needed to be successful in college. AP courses can also help students gain acceptance into college. It's less about taking easy classes and earning A's than it is about taking challenging and rigorous coursework. Students who have taken rigorous coursework stand out in the admission process.

AP Courses

Courses are available in many subject areas, including English, history, humanities, languages, math, psychology and science. Through AP courses, students are able to dive deeper into the subjects they enjoy and tackle concepts that will stick with them. Students participate in engaging discussions and debates, approach and solve problems collaboratively, explore new ideas, and learn to communicate well through writing. Each AP course has a corresponding exam that participating schools worldwide administer in May. Except for Studio Art, which is a portfolio assessment, AP Exams contain multiple-choice questions and a free-response section (either essay or problem solving). AP Exams represent the culmination of AP courses, and are thus an integral part of the Program.

What AP Courses Are Available at Central High School?

Please refer to the appropriate content sections of this catalog for course descriptions.

Art History	Macroeconomics
Biology	Microeconomics
Calculus AB	Music Theory
Calculus BC	Physics (Mechanics)
Chemistry	Psychology
Computer Science Principles	Spanish Language & Culture
English Language and Composition	Spanish Literature & Culture
English Literature and Composition	Statistics
Environmental Science	Studio Art
French Language & Culture	US Government
German Language & Culture	US History
Human Geography	

Who Can Enroll?

Any student can take an AP course as long as he/she meets the course prerequisites. Since AP courses provide challenging college-level content and involve a considerable amount of work outside of the school day, students must possess a true desire to learn and a commitment and willingness to work hard.

How Many AP Courses Can a Student Take?

Central High School does not limit the number of AP courses a student may take. Students are urged to plan their course load with the consideration that AP courses are academically challenging and require a greater time commitment.

For additional information, visit the [College Board](#).