

Understanding Advanced Placement (AP) Westerville North High School

What are Advanced Placement (AP) courses?

AP courses are college-level courses completed in a supportive high school environment.

At the end of each course, students have the opportunity to take an AP exam, which may lead to college admission, college credit, and placement into advanced courses in college.

What are the benefits of AP courses?

- AP courses give students a rigorous college-level class in a supportive high school environment.
- AP courses are taught by highly qualified teachers who have AP training.
- AP courses help students stand out in the admission process and gain scholarships.
- AP courses can increase students' options at college and save money.
- AP courses improve students' success at college.

Who should take AP courses?

Students who are eager for a challenge, who excel in the subject area, who want to be prepared for college, and want to stand out in the admissions process should take AP courses.

When should students begin to prepare for AP course?

In some cases, preparation for AP may begin as early as seventh grade.

- For students to be eligible to take AP Calculus their senior year, they need to take Pre-Algebra by seventh grade.
- For students to be eligible to take AP Spanish Language, they need to take Spanish I by eighth grade.
- Students should take honors courses as soon as possible to ensure preparedness for later AP coursework.

Please note that, in many disciplines, motivated students will have the opportunity to take high school honors and AP courses, without previous honors course work.

What are the AP exams?

In May, students have the option of taking a comprehensive AP exam for each AP course taken.

These college-level exams are two to three hours long and are given locally. Each exam costs \$93.

The College Board reduces the exam fee for students with financial need.

What are the benefits of taking the AP exam?

- Students may earn college credit or placement.

*Each college has its own policy, which is available on the College Board's Web site:
www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy.*

- Students will stand out in the college admission process.
- Students may earn academic scholarships and awards.
- Students gain experience preparing for and taking college-level tests.

Questions? Contact Leslie Baumann, BaumannL@wcsoh.org

Westerville North's Advanced Placement Courses

Business Technologies

AP Computer Science Principles

This course introduces students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cyber security concerns, and computing impacts.

English

AP English Language and Composition

AP English Language and Composition focuses on nonfiction as a tool to hone students' skills as critical thinkers, closer readers, and cogent writers, focusing on analytical and persuasive writing.

AP English Literature and Composition

AP Literature and Composition is a survey of Western and world literature. Through the close reading of texts, students deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure for their readers.

Math

AP Calculus AB and BC

AP Calculus AB includes a study of functions, limits, analytical geometry, derivations and integrations.

Statistics

AP Statistics introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, & drawing conclusions from data.

Science

AP Biology

AP Biology is a second full year in Biology. Heavy emphasis is placed on molecular and cellular biology, heredity and evolution, organismic biology, and comparative vertebrate anatomy.

AP Chemistry

AP Chemistry is a second full year of chemistry. The course includes advanced topics, such as acids and bases, electrochemistry, equilibrium, kinetics, and thermochemistry.

AP Environmental Science

AP Environmental provides students with the scientific principles and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to analyze environmental problems, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them.

AP Physics C

AP Physics (C) Mechanics is a calculus based physics course taught with the intent of providing a student (with a serious interest in science or engineering) the equivalent of a rigorous, college level, physics experience. Lab investigations and "challenges" help develop and test students' observational and critical thinking skills.

Social Studies

AP Psychology

AP Psychology introduces students to the scientific study of behavior & mental processes of human beings & other animals.

AP World History

AP World History explores the evolution of global processes and contacts in different types of human societies.

AP US Government & Politics

AP US Government and Politics gives students an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States.

AP Comparative Government

AP Comparative Government introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings.

AP US History

AP US History provides students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in US History.

World Languages

AP Spanish Language

AP Spanish Language is designed to provide students with a learning experience equivalent to that of a third-year college course in Spanish language.