



# What Are Advanced Placement<sup>®</sup> Courses?

# Advanced Placement<sup>®</sup>: The Basics

- AP<sup>®</sup> courses are college-level courses offered in high school
- Courses reflect what is taught in top introductory college courses
- Students take **AP Exams** at the end of the course, measuring their mastery of college-level work
- A score of 3 or higher on an AP Exam can typically earn students college credit and/or placement into advanced courses in college

# Our AP<sup>®</sup> Courses

- **Arts:** Music Theory, Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio, Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio, Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio
- **English:** English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition
- **History and Social Sciences:** European History, Psychology, United States Government and Politics, United States History
- **Mathematics and Computer Science:** Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics 1: Algebra-based, Physics 2: Algebra-based, Physics C: Mechanics, Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism

AP<sup>®</sup>

# AP<sup>®</sup>: The Benefits

# AP<sup>®</sup>: The Benefits

- Students learn rigorous college-level content and skills
- Taking AP is valued in the college admission process
- AP courses are interesting and rewarding academic experiences
- Opportunity to earn valuable credit and placement in college



# AP<sup>®</sup> from the College Admissions Perspective

- 85% of selective colleges and universities report that a student's AP experience favorably impacts admission decisions\*
- Colleges rank grades in college-preparatory courses and strength of curriculum as the two top factors in the admission decision
- AP courses tell college admission officials that students are challenging themselves and preparing for the rigors they'll encounter in their college careers

• *\*Unpublished institutional research, Crux Research Inc., March 2007*

AP<sup>®</sup>

AP<sup>®</sup> Exams

# AP<sup>®</sup> Exams

AP Exams are administered by schools worldwide on set dates in May each year.

- Exams are typically 2–3 hours and include:
  - Multiple-choice questions
  - Free-response items such as essays, problem solving, document-based questions and oral response





# AP<sup>®</sup> Exam Fees

- The exam fee for 2021 is \$95 per exam.
- Assistance is available for eligible students with financial need.

# Credit and Placement Opportunities

Each college and university has its own policies regarding AP<sup>®</sup> credit and placement. The College Board offers information about AP credit at thousands of college and universities at [www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy](http://www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy).



- Search by school name or alphabetically
- Data for each school includes a direct link to that school's Web page detailing AP credit and placement policies
- A statement from the college or university about its AP policy

AP<sup>®</sup>

What is it like to take AP<sup>®</sup>?

# AP<sup>®</sup>: A More Engaging Learning Experience

AP courses challenge students to work and participate at a higher level:

- Opportunities to explore topics in depth
- More time in and out of the classroom required to complete assignments and projects
- High expectations for critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evidence, multiple perspectives, and clear written and verbal communications

# AP<sup>®</sup> Myths & Realities

Myth	Reality
AP courses are for students who always get good grades.	AP courses are for any students who are academically prepared and motivated to take college-level courses.
AP courses are too stressful.	It's no secret that AP courses are challenging. But the support you receive from your classmates and teachers can help you manage the work load.
I don't think I will score high enough on the AP Exam to get college credit.	You don't need to score a 5. Many colleges grant credit — and placement as well — based on a 3 or higher on an AP Exam.
Taking AP courses could hurt my GPA.	All courses that can be taken at MVHS for college credit are weighted grades. Taking AP courses shows colleges that you're willing to challenge yourself academically.