

A green horizontal band across the middle of the slide contains a faint, out-of-focus background image of several students looking down, possibly at books or papers.

# **An Introduction to the Advanced Placement Program®**

## **Lodi High**

# Welcome

Lodi High is committed to every student's success.

We believe access to rigorous course work such as Advanced Placement® (AP®) plays an important role in that success.





# 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

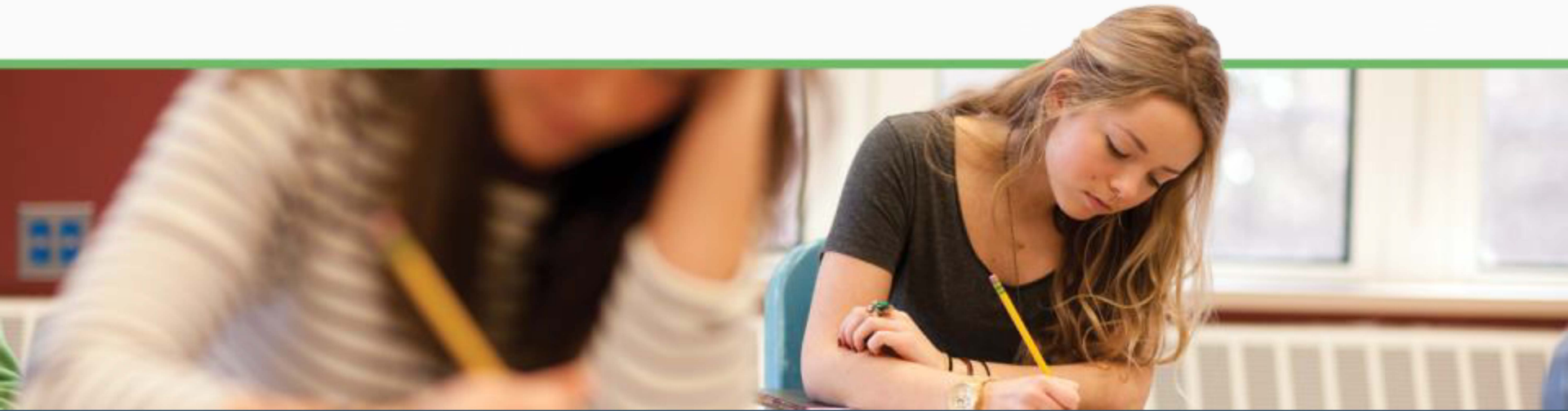
- **Arts:** Art History, AP Art 2D Design
- **English:** English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition
- **History and Social Sciences:** European History, Human Geography, Economics, Psychology, United States Government and Politics, United States History
- **Mathematics and Computer Science:** Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science A, Statistics
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics 1: Algebra-based
- **World languages:** French Language and Culture, Spanish Language and Culture, Spanish Literature and Culture



# 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- *\*Unpublished institutional research, Crux Research Inc., March 2007*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>: Skills & Advantages that Last a Lifetime

- Taking an AP course helps students build critical thinking skills, confidence, and the essential time management and study skills needed for college success
- Nationally, research shows that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically earn higher grade point averages in college and have higher graduation rates than their non-AP peers\*

*\*2009, The College Board, "The Relationship Between AP Exam Performance and College Outcomes"*

# AP<sup>®</sup> Helps Students Graduate on Time & Save Money

- Students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely to complete a college degree on time.\* Graduating in four years represents a significant savings on the cost of college.
- Only 1 in 4 college students completes a bachelor's degree in 4 years.
- The average cost of college for a single year is \$23,410\*\* for in-state schools (tuition, fees, room/board, misc. expenses).

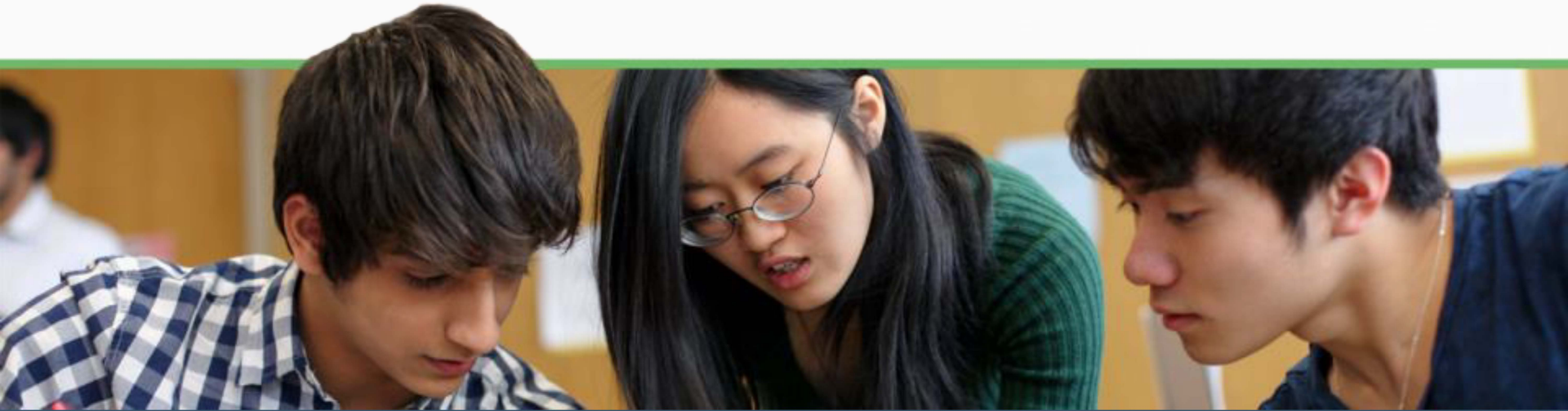
\*College Outcomes Comparisons by AP and Non-AP High School Experiences, *The College Board*, 2008

\*\**The College Board*, Trends in College Pricing 2014, Figure 1

# AP<sup>®</sup> Expands Students' Options

When students earn college credit through AP Exams, their options and opportunities expand:

- Move to upper-level college courses sooner
- Pursue a double major
- Gain time to study and travel abroad



# 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

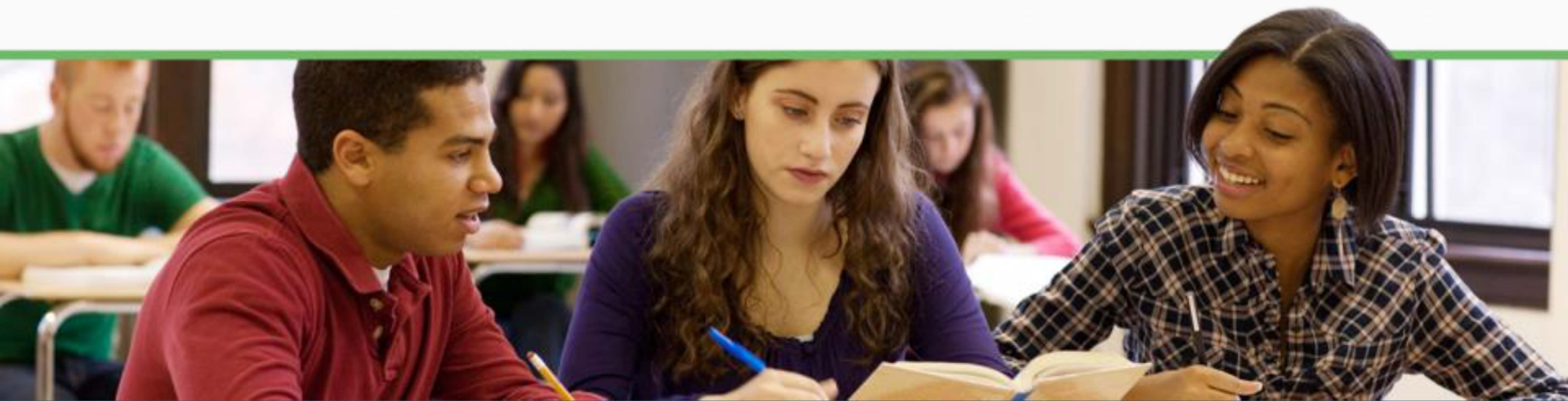
AP<sup>®</sup>

# 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 2017 is \$92 per exam.
- Assistance is available for eligible students with financial need:
  - The College Board offers a \$29 fee reduction per exam for eligible students with financial need.
  - A fee waiver is available for those meeting economic criteria

# 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).

The screenshot shows the 'AP Credit Policy Info' website. The header includes the CollegeBoard logo and navigation links like 'Home', 'About AP', 'Registering', 'Processing', 'Calendar & Fees', 'Exam Day', 'Exam Scores', 'Exam Security', 'Contact Us', and 'Subjects'. The main content area is titled 'AP Credit Policy Info' and 'Advanced Placement Program'. It includes a search bar with a dropdown menu for 'Find colleges and universities with AP credit policy information'. Below the search bar, there are two rows of letters (A-Z) for alphabetical search. A 'School Name' search box is also present. At the bottom, there are links for 'AP Credit Policy Info', 'AP International Recognition', 'SAT Subject Registration', and 'Services for Students with Disabilities'. The footer contains legal links and the TRUSTe logo.

- 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> and our Higher Education Community

*<Add information about how AP is used by the local higher education institutions>*

- Quotes from area higher education institutions that receive your school's students. These quotes should state how the admission office views AP courses.
- A statistic from the area colleges about the number of students (in general) that gain credit for AP Exam scores and how much credit was awarded.
- A list of the top AP courses and the score required for credit by the higher ed institutions that receive the highest number of your students (be sure to include community colleges if the community colleges accept AP).
- How much one three-hour course costs at the area colleges (including textbook).



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

# 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.	AP courses receive an additional point if the student earns a C or higher. Taking AP courses shows colleges that you're willing to challenge yourself academically.
I can't take AP because no one has recommended me.	If you think you're ready to take an AP course, then you're ready to advocate for yourself — just talk to a teacher or counselor.

# Our School Offers Support for AP<sup>®</sup> Students

Our school offers these resources and programs to support our AP students:

- *Some teachers offer summer tutorials prior to taking an AP course*
- *After school tutorials through ASTEP help support students throughout the year and study sessions prior to the AP Exam are also supported by ASTEP*

# Students & Parents ... In Their Own Words

[An AP teacher talks about her high expectations for her students](#)

[AP Program: Turning Curiosity into a Science](#)

[Karl describes AP classes as a glimpse into what college is like](#)

[The Value of AP for Latino Students \(in Spanish\)](#)

[Teachers recognize AP student achievements](#)

[AP Program: Creativity Makes A Mark](#)

# College Admissions Officials In Their Own Words

AP Program: The impact of AP credit and placement  
on the college experience



A horizontal band with a green gradient overlay, containing a blurred image of several students looking down, likely at a book or device.

## **Next Steps: Help Your Child Make the Best Choices**

# AP<sup>®</sup>: Start the Conversation

Help your child prepare to talk to a teacher or counselor about AP. Here are some questions to encourage your child to think about:

## **What AP course is right for me?**

Before you talk to a teacher or counselor, think about what interests you:

- Which courses do you enjoy most in school? In which subjects do you excel?
- What college majors are you considering? What careers excite you?

Ask your counselor or teacher the following questions:

- In which AP courses at our school am I likely to do well?
- Are there other courses that can help me succeed in AP or prepare me for college and careers?

## **What steps do I need to take?**

- What is our school's enrollment deadline?
- May I speak with a student who has taken an AP course?
- Are there study groups or people who can offer help if I need it?
- What can I do next to help me prepare for AP?



# AP<sup>®</sup>: Resources Worth Exploring for Students and Families

- AP information: [apstudent.collegeboard.org](https://apstudent.collegeboard.org)
- College and Career Planning: [bigfuture.org](https://bigfuture.org)
- Personalized feedback, practice and college planning based on your PSAT/NMSQT<sup>®</sup> results: My College QuickStart™  
[www.collegeboard.org/quickstart](https://www.collegeboard.org/quickstart)
- AP credit policy information from colleges and universities:  
[www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy](https://www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy)

# Explore AP<sup>®</sup>: Take the Next Step

