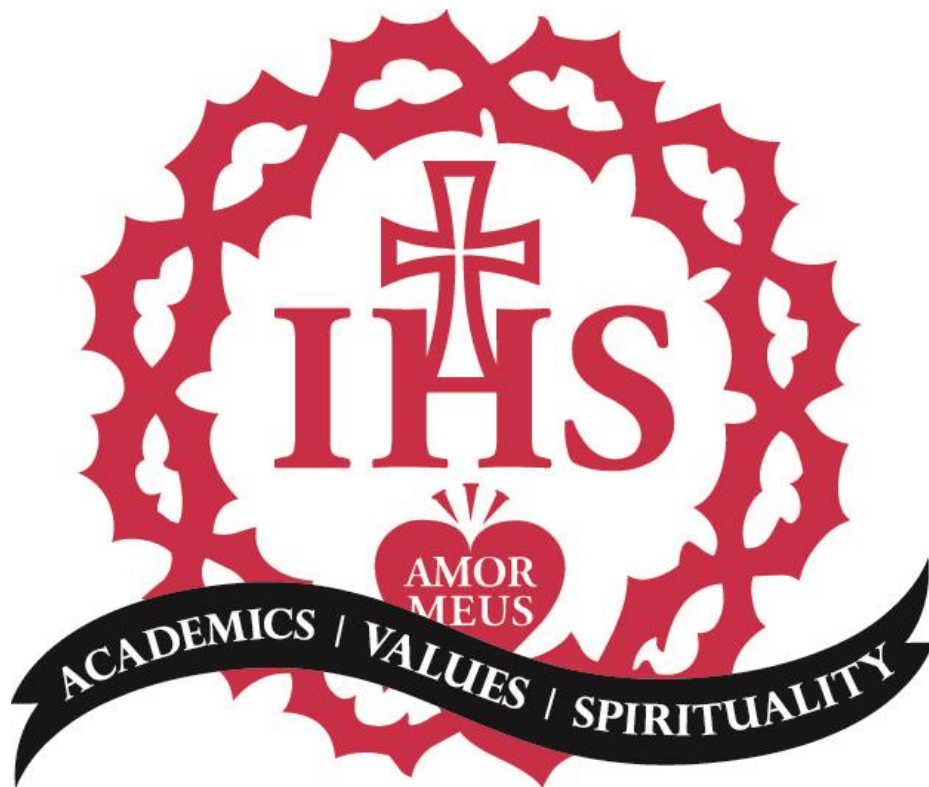


Incarnate Word Academy

A Catholic College Preparatory High School for Young Women
Since 1873



Advanced Placement Guide 2019 – 2020

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Incarnate Word Academy: 2019 – 2020 Advanced Placement Guide

IWA asks students to value curiosity and new experiences just as much as they value rigor when building personally challenging schedules from our college preparatory core, 30 honors and Advanced Placement classes and over 30 wide-reaching electives. Honors courses are preparatory for Advanced Placement courses, offering an increased pace, content and workload. Advanced placement courses follow the College Board's Advanced Placement curriculum and provide an opportunity to gain college credit by sitting for national AP examinations held in May.

Course Placement

For placement into an honors or an AP course, a student must meet established criteria from each department. These department guidelines are outlined in the course description catalog. Students must maintain the honors or the AP course criteria to be eligible to enroll in the subsequent honors or AP courses the following year. Preliminary Honors/AP core course placement will be made using the student's 1st semester average grade. Course placement is re-evaluated at the end of the fourth quarter by the student's core teachers, and final placement is based on each department's honors/AP enrollment prerequisites and 2nd semester average grades.

Course Selection Recommendations

Students considering AP courses are required to attend an AP interest meeting in January and review the AP Course Expectation Guide. Students considering taking more than three Honors/AP courses may be asked to consult with those AP teachers for approval. Students heavily involved in extracurricular activities should consider taking fewer Honors/AP classes to help balance their workload.

GPA

The formulas used for calculating grade point averages can be found in the parent/student handbook. Weight is given to the grade according to the numerical value of that grade with a bonus given for honors/AP courses. Courses are marked Advanced Placement (AP) on the transcript.

AP Exam

Enrollment in any AP class has the requirement of taking the AP Exam. Students are responsible for the fee associated with each AP Exam. The 2019 fee is \$94. Students who meet federal income requirements, may request reduced fee information through the IWA AP Coordinator.

The following Advanced Placement Courses are offered at IWA:

Biology	Latin
Calculus AB	French Language & Culture
Calculus BC	Spanish Language & Culture
Chemistry	Statistics
Computer Science	U.S. Government & Politics
English Language & Composition	U.S. History
English Literature & Composition	

Course: AP Biology (11, 12) 1 Credit

Description: AP Biology is designed to be the equivalent of a two-semester college introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year, and therefore the curriculum parallels that of a freshman level biology course. The AP Biology course is designed to be taken after completion of a first course in high school biology and chemistry. The course aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisites: To be eligible for placement into AP Biology, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average an 85 or higher in Honors Chemistry or must average a 93 or higher in Chemistry. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.
2. Achieve a final average in their most recent math class of 93 or higher or 85 or higher in their most recent honors math class.
3. Must be enrolled in Algebra II or higher level math class.
4. Commit to taking the AP Exam for that subject.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Complete a Summer Assignment.
2. To keep up to date with textbook reading, and complete homework as assigned.
3. Completion of at least 13 college level labs, including at least one formal lab report per quarter.
4. Participate in at least one practice AP exam, which will be given after school hours.
5. Use representations and models to communicate scientific phenomena and solve scientific problems.
6. Connect and relate knowledge across various scales, concepts, and representations in and across the domains.
7. Exhibit persistence and diligence in engaging with challenging material.
8. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

Course: AP Calculus AB (12) 1 Credit

Description: This course is an integrated study of Calculus including the study of algebraic and transcendental functions, limits, continuity, differentiation, integration, differential equations, and applications of integrations. AP Calculus AB is roughly equivalent to a first semester college course devoted to topics in differential and integral Calculus. The course consists of a full high school academic year of work. This course is primarily concerned with developing the students' understanding of the concepts of calculus and providing experience with its methods and applications. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. The connections among these representations also are important. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisite: To be eligible for placement into AP Calculus AB, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average a 90 in Pre-Calculus. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.
2. OR the final grade must average an 85 in Honors Pre-Calculus. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Complete a Summer Packet.
2. Diligently complete ~60 min of nightly work (reviewing concepts, working problem sets, watching assigned videos, etc.).
3. Be proactive in asking questions.
4. Work collaboratively on various classroom activities.

5. Take short, weekly formula quizzes.
6. Take a quiz or test every few weeks.
7. Be self-motivated.
8. Exhibit perseverance in solving challenging problems.
9. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

Course: AP Calculus BC (12) **1 Credit**

Description: In addition to AB content, this course also examines different types of equations and introduces the topic of sequences and series. The AP Calculus BC course consists of a full high school academic year of work and is roughly comparable to two semesters of a calculus course in colleges and universities. This course is primarily concerned with developing the students' understanding of the concepts of calculus and providing experience with its methods and applications. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. The connections among these representations also are important. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisite: To be eligible for placement into AP Calculus BC, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average a 95 in Honors Pre-Calculus. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Complete a Summer Packet.
2. Diligently complete ~60 min of nightly work (reviewing concepts, working problem sets, watching assigned videos, etc.).
3. Be proactive in asking questions.
4. Work collaboratively on various classroom activities.
5. Take short, weekly formula quizzes.
6. Take a quiz or test every few weeks.
7. Be self-motivated.
8. Exhibit perseverance in solving challenging problems.
9. Manage faster pacing of curriculum
10. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

Course: AP Chemistry (11, 12) **1 Credit**

Description: The purpose of Advanced Placement Chemistry is to provide a college level course in chemistry and to prepare the student to seek credit and/or appropriate placement in college chemistry courses. Inorganic chemistry concepts are covered in depth with aspects of organic chemistry included. Course meets each day plus extra time per cycle during flex time and after school for extended laboratory time. Laboratories include qualitative and quantitative chemistry with a focus on detailed observations and analysis of data. Complete laboratory reports are required. Summer assignments include reading and on-line homework covering a review of Chemistry I. A TI-84 calculator is required. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisites: To be eligible for placement into AP Chemistry, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average an 85 or higher in Honors Chemistry or must average a 93 or higher in Chemistry. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.
2. Achieve a final average in Algebra II of 93 or higher or 85 or higher in their most recent honors Algebra II.
3. Commit to taking the AP Exam for that subject.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Complete summer homework (4-5 hours).
2. Keep up with nightly homework and videos (30+ minutes/day).

3. Complete 15-18 college level labs, around half of which will involve formal typed reports.
4. Participate in at least two practice AP exams which will be given after school hours.
5. Exhibit persistence and diligence in engaging with challenging technical work.
6. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

Course: AP Computer Science Principles (10, 11, 12) 1.0 Credit

Description: This course develops computational thinking vital for success across multiple disciplines and introduces students to the central ideas of computer science: creativity, abstraction, data & information, algorithms, programming, the Internet, and the global impact. It is comparable to a first-semester introductory college computing course. Computing affects almost all aspects of modern life and all students deserve access to a computing education that prepares them to pursue the wide array of intellectual and career opportunities that computing has made possible. This course is not a tour of current events and technologies. Rather, it seeks to provide students with a “future proof” foundation in computing principles so that they are adequately prepared with both the knowledge and skills to live and meaningfully participate in our increasingly digital society, economy, and culture. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisite: At least one prior Computer Science elective.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Keep up with nightly homework/reading load.
2. Dedicate additional time to learning a programming language.
3. Use representations and models to communicate trends and understanding of computer science concepts.
4. Perform data analysis and evaluation of evidence.
5. Have a good digital life balance.

Course: AP English III, Advanced Placement Language and Composition (11) 1 Credit

Description: AP English III is a college-level course in which students study rhetoric and composition along with American literature. This blending of fiction and non-fiction includes works from the 17th through the 21st centuries and encompasses speeches, essays, articles, novels, short stories, poetry, and plays. The student explores the relationship between the writer’s purpose and the rhetorical devices utilized to convey meaning. In addition to close reading, students write in a variety of rhetorical modes and practice AP Exam strategies. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisites: To be eligible for placement into AP English III, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average an 88 or higher in Honors English II or must average a 93 or higher in English II. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.
2. The student’s current English teacher will determine the quality of the student’s participation in her current English class. Students scoring an A or B on the English department participation rubric will be eligible for AP English. Students scoring below a B will not be eligible for AP, regardless of overall course grade.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Complete the Summer Reading and Portfolio Assignment (due on the first day of Class).
2. Read approximately 20-30 pages of assigned literature a night.
3. Complete at least one formal out of class essay per quarter and biweekly in class writing assignments.
4. Participate in class discussion, group activities, and revision workshops on a daily basis.
5. Conduct research to support an argument about an assigned or chosen topic.
6. Analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identifying and explaining an author’s use of rhetorical and literary techniques.
7. Create, sustain and present an argument verbally and in writing.

8. Engage in the complete writing process utilizing a complex central idea supported with evidence and explanation.
9. Develop a sophisticated and varied vocabulary through bi-weekly vocabulary quizzes.
10. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

Course: AP English IV, Advanced Placement Literature and Composition (12) 1 Credit

Description: AP English IV is a college- level course in which students study novels, plays, and poetry from American, British, and world authors ranging from Elizabethan drama to the 21 st century. Through close reading and critical analysis, students explore the methods authors use to convey meaning and aesthetics. As reading, students consider a work’s structure, style, and themes as well as various other elements such as the use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisites: To be eligible for placement into AP English IV, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average an 88 or higher in AP English III or must average a 93 or higher in English III. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.
2. The student’s current English teacher will determine the quality of the student’s participation in her current English class. Students scoring an A or B on the English department participation rubric will be eligible for AP English. Students scoring below a B will not be eligible for AP, regardless of overall course grade.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Complete the Summer Reading and Portfolio Assignment (due on the first day of Class).
2. Read approximately 20-30 pages of assigned literature a night.
3. Complete one formal out of class essay per quarter and weekly in class writing assignments.
4. Participate in class discussion, group activities, and revision workshops on a daily basis.
5. Conduct research to support their own interpretation and evaluation of literary works.
6. Analyze and interpret samples of good writing, identifying and explaining an author’s use of rhetorical and literary techniques.
7. Create, sustain and present an argument verbally and in writing.
8. Engage in the complete writing process utilizing a complex central idea supported with evidence and explanation.
9. Develop a sophisticated and varied vocabulary through bi-weekly vocabulary quizzes.
10. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

Course: AP French IV (11, 12) 1 Credit

Description: This course is designed as invitation to further explore the francophone world. This class is conducted exclusively in French. By this time, students have a good understanding of the French language and grammar. Students will refine their French skills while adding new vocabulary pertinent to a variety of subjects. They will also explore variety of cultural material from the francophone world. This class is designed to prepare students for the AP French Language and Culture Test. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisites: To be eligible for placement into AP French IV, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average a 88 or higher in Honors French III or must average a 93 or higher in French III. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades.
2. The student’s current World Languages teacher will determine the quality of the student’s participation in her current World Languages class.
3. The student must maintain an S in conduct or better in the first three quarters of the academic year.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Have a strong desire to strengthen her ability French.
2. Write in French on a regular basis through a variety of assignments of varying lengths.

3. Be prepared to contribute to class discussion on a daily basis in French.
4. Analyze texts and translate passages.
5. Integrate complex grammatical structures in writing and speaking.
6. Listen to or read 5 to 10 minutes of francophone media, books, movies etc. daily on any topic.
7. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

Course: AP Latin IV (11, 12) **1 Credit**

Description: Latin IV (AP) course prepares the students for the AP Latin Literature Exam. The course is being structured according to the requirement of *AP Latin Course Description*. The acquaintance with *Aeneid* gives students the opportunity to appreciate the historical background and the poetic mastery of Vergil and the acquaintance with Caesar's Gallic War allows the students to be engaged with the controversial issues of war and peace, empire, ethnicity, and leadership. English readings from Vergil's *Aeneid* and Caesar's *Gallic war* are also included in the required Syllabus in order to put the Latin excerpts in a significant context. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisite: To be eligible for placement into AP Latin IV, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average a 88 or higher in Honors Latin III or must average a 93 or higher in Latin III. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.
2. The student's current World Languages teacher will determine the quality of the student's participation in her current World Languages class.
3. The student must maintain an S in conduct or better in the first three quarters of the academic year.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Have a strong desire to strengthen her ability Latin.
2. Demonstrate critical reading of Latin authentic texts in clear arguments, supported by textual examples.
3. Be prepared to contribute to class discussion on a daily basis in Latin.
4. Read Latin at sight, describe and analyze grammar, syntax and literary style.
5. Develop a strong background in grammar.
6. Be able to maintain a workload of 10-15 lines of translation per night.
7. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

Course: AP Spanish IV (11, 12) **1 Credit**

Description: This course is an advanced level Spanish course in which students explore six principal themes and engage through a variety of authentic print, audio, and video sources. This class is conducted exclusively in Spanish. Students will study cultures and events in depth and will make connections and comparisons to other cultures including their own. This course aims to prepare students for the Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture Examination through focused activities and exam preparation strategies. Students will also use technology in the classroom to help integrate all the skills in a context of immersion. This course is taught in Spanish. All students will take the National Spanish Exam. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisites: To be eligible for placement into AP Spanish IV, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average a 88 or higher in Honors Spanish III or must average a 93 or higher in Spanish III. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.
2. The student's current World Languages teacher will determine the quality of the student's participation in her current World Languages class.
3. The student must maintain an S in conduct or better in the first three quarters of the academic year.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Have a strong desire to strengthen her ability Spanish.
2. Write in Spanish on a regular basis through a variety of assignments of varying lengths.
3. Be prepared to contribute to class discussion on a daily basis in Spanish.
4. Analyze texts and translate passages.
5. Develop a strong background in grammar.
6. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

***Course:* AP Statistics (11, 12) 1 Credit**

Description: The purpose of this course is to introduce the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Students are exposed to four central concepts: 1. Exploring Data: Describing patterns and departures from patterns, 2. Sampling and Experimentation: Planning and conducting a study, 3. Anticipating Patterns: Exploring random phenomena using probability and simulation, and 4. Statistical Inference: Estimating population parameters and testing hypotheses. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisite: To be eligible for placement into AP Statistics, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average an 80 or higher in Algebra II. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.
2. OR have completed Pre-Calculus.
3. Can be taken as an elective while concurrently enrolled in Honors Pre-Calculus or AP Calculus AB/BC.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Complete Summer Reading chapter 1 and written assignment.
2. Complete per chapter: One or two tests, vocabulary quiz, 1 or 2 additional quizzes.
3. Complete Weekly: 15 –25 problems, Reading and Memory work (1+ hour/night).
4. Communicate well through writing while using specific language in context.
5. Communicate well using proper graphs and notation in context.
6. Master AP strategies as needed for the Exam.
7. Relate and connect knowledge across various problem types.
8. Use Calculator appropriately.
9. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

***Course:* AP U.S. Government and Politics – Second Semester (12) 0.5 Credit**

Description: “A people without knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture are like a tree without roots”--Marcus Garvey. Students will learn about the development of the United States as a nation, significant places and people, and the development of important legal and political concepts within the nation, as well as the effects and causes of the American economic development. The first semester will trace the growth of America as a nation from its colonial status to the divisions caused by the Civil War. The second semester will pick up after Reconstruction and follow America’s growth as a world power to its current status in the present. In addition, students will be exposed to a variety of primary sources and use them to further their understanding of United States history. The course is designed to be similar to a college-level course, and upon completion of the course, students should be sufficiently prepared to take the AP exam. Students will prepare for the exam by writing regular in-class essays using primary and secondary documents. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

*Students taking AP U.S. Government and Politics in the Spring semester must also take Honors Macroeconomics in the Fall semester.

Prerequisites: To be eligible for placement into AP U.S. History, students must meet the following requirements:

1. The final grade must average an 88 or higher in Honors World History and Geography from 1500 CE or must average a 93 or higher in World History and Geography from 1500 CE. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.

2. In addition, because of the emphasis on writing skills in the Social Studies department and the need to prepare students for AP level writing, students must meet a required average in the writing grading category. To be eligible for placement into AP U.S. History, students must have a second semester writing assignment average of 90 or higher if enrolled in World History and Geography from 1500 CE and 87 or higher if enrolled in Honors World History and Geography from 1500 CE.
3. Lastly, each student's conduct and effort will be evaluated by the current Social Studies teacher. If the student has not received a "Satisfactory" conduct code or above, she will not be eligible to enter AP U.S. History.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Analyze, explain, and apply primary sources.
2. Analyze, explain, and apply Supreme Court cases
3. Analyze explain, and apply information from tables, charts, graphs, figures, and cartoons.
4. Write an argumentative essay.
5. Compare and contrast ideas, institutions, and documents.
6. Recognize, describe, and explain the relationship of Government concepts and elements to current events.
7. Read and think critically.
8. Take a confident role in class discussion.
9. Identify the features of the United States Government.
10. Understand political process and linkage institutions, e.g., political parties, elections, interest groups.
11. Understand the relationships between the branches of Government.
12. Understand individual liberties and civil rights.
13. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.

Course: **AP U.S. History (11)** **1Credit**

Description: "A people without knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture are like a tree without roots"--Marcus Garvey. Students will learn about the development of the United States as a nation, significant places and people, and the development of important legal and political concepts within the nation, as well as the effects and causes of the American economic development. The first semester will trace the growth of America as a nation from its colonial status to the divisions caused by the Civil War. The second semester will pick up after Reconstruction and follow America's growth as a world power to its current status in the present. In addition, students will be exposed to a variety of primary sources and use them to further their understanding of United States history. The course is designed to be similar to a college-level course, and upon completion of the course, students should be sufficiently prepared to take the AP exam. Students will prepare for the exam by writing regular in-class essays using primary and secondary documents. Sitting for the AP Exam is a course requirement.

Prerequisites: To be eligible for placement into AP U.S. History, students must meet the following requirements:

4. The final grade must average an 88 or higher in Honors World History and Geography from 1500 CE or must average a 93 or higher in World History and Geography from 1500 CE. This average includes all four quarters as well the midterm and final grades for both semesters.
5. In addition, because of the emphasis on writing skills in the Social Studies department and the need to prepare students for AP level writing, students must meet a required average in the writing grading category. To be eligible for placement into AP U.S. History, students must have a second semester writing assignment average of 90 or higher if enrolled in World History and Geography from 1500 CE and 87 or higher if enrolled in Honors World History and Geography from 1500 CE.
6. Lastly, each student's conduct and effort will be evaluated by the current Social Studies teacher. If the student has not received a "Satisfactory" conduct code or above, she will not be eligible to enter AP U.S. History.

Expectations: The student will be expected to:

1. Complete summer reading: Chapter 1 in textbook.
2. Complete per unit: one test.
3. Complete per AP time period: Notes taken on College Board Course Framework Outline for the time period.
4. Complete nightly reading assignments.
5. Complete writing exercises, essays, and document analysis.
6. Complete practice AP-style questions and essay prompts.
7. Master AP skills of comparison, causation, continuity, change over time, and contextualization.
8. Master testing strategies for the AP exam, including sitting for a Mock AP Exam.