

# AP<sup>®</sup>: A World-Class Academic Experience

- Students who take AP<sup>®</sup> courses and exams are immersed in university-level learning while still in secondary school.
- AP is recognized by universities around the world as a standard of academic excellence. Universities offer advanced placement, credit or both, and/or recognize AP in their admission process.
- AP is more than just a class and an exam; it is a community of students and educators who are passionate, curious and committed to learning, academic excellence and global citizenship.

[www.collegeboard.com/apstudents](http://www.collegeboard.com/apstudents)

# The Advanced Placement Program® (AP®)

Each year, students around the world who want to learn and achieve at the highest academic level become AP® students. The Advanced Placement Program®, a rigorous academic program administered at secondary schools worldwide, offers more than 30 university-level courses and exams.

AP is more than just a class and an exam; it's a community of students and educators who are passionate, curious and committed to learning and to academic excellence. In an AP classroom, the focus is not on memorizing facts and figures. Instead, students engage in intense discussions, solve problems collaboratively, think critically and creatively, approach key topics from multiple perspectives, and learn to write clearly and persuasively — skills needed to succeed at the university level and in today's global society.

AP also offers willing and academically prepared students the opportunity to earn university credit, advanced placement or both, and to stand out in the university admission process.



**“Completing AP courses is one way applicants demonstrate a willingness to accept academic challenges. Strong grades and high test scores certainly demonstrate preparation for college.”**

— Lori Goldman  
Director of Enrollment Services,  
University of Arizona



## Facts About AP

- AP is the most widely used academic program in the world, with more than 17,000 schools participating in AP, including more than 1,000 schools in 116 countries outside the United States. More than 1.7 million students take AP Exams each year.
- AP goes beyond “advanced-level” or “honors” courses; AP offers secondary school students university-level courses and exams that are aligned with core introductory courses at universities.
- AP Exams assess university-level concepts and skills necessary for success in postsecondary studies.
- AP courses and exams are developed and scored by university faculty from around the world, and reflect the educational practices of leading higher education institutions.
- AP is the only university-level program for secondary schools supported by research conducted by various colleges, universities and organizations. Studies consistently show that students who take an AP course and who receive a score of 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically experience greater academic success and higher university graduation rates than their non-AP peers.
- AP promotes global perspectives and competencies with courses and exams in subjects such as world history, environmental science, and comparative government and politics, among others. In addition, courses such as AP Art History and AP English Literature and Composition also include and encourage global perspectives.
- AP is modular. Students can take and benefit from just one individual course or from multiple AP courses and exams.
- AP is flexible. Internationally mobile students can take AP courses and exams at schools around the world. There is no need to complete a multiyear program in one school.
- AP helps students qualify for scholarships. A recent College Board survey showed that a substantial percentage of colleges and universities in the United States look at students’ AP experience when determining scholarships.

# AP Courses and Exams

ARTS	MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
Art History Music Theory Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio	Calculus AB Calculus BC Computer Science A Statistics
ENGLISH	SCIENCES
English Language and Composition English Literature and Composition	Biology Chemistry Environmental Science Physics B Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism Physics C: Mechanics
HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES	WORLD LANGUAGES
Comparative Government and Politics European History Human Geography Macroeconomics Microeconomics Psychology United States Government and Politics United States History World History	Chinese Language and Culture French Language German Language Japanese Language and Culture Latin: Vergil Spanish Language Spanish Literature

# The Advanced Placement International Diploma (APID)

- The APID is available as an option for all students who participate in AP outside of the United States and U.S.-based students who send a score report to an international university.
- The APID demonstrates to universities a student’s global outlook and high academic achievement across several disciplines.
- Students can earn an APID by receiving a score of 3 or higher on the required combination of five AP Exams.
  - » Two AP Exams from two different languages selected from English and/or world languages.
  - » One AP Exam designated as offering a global perspective: Comparative Government and Politics, Human Geography, or World History.
  - » One exam from the sciences or mathematics content areas.
  - » One (or two) additional exam(s) from among any content areas except English and world languages.

**More information about the APID is available on our website:**  
[www.collegeboard.com/apid](http://www.collegeboard.com/apid).

**“TAISM has embraced AP as a curricular opportunity for students in our high school. We feel that the combined rigor and flexibility of AP best serve our students’ broad-based educational needs. AP Exams also provide students with the international yardstick against which many of them wish to be measured.”**

— Kevin Schafer  
The American International School of Muscat, Oman



## How Do Students Enroll in AP Courses?

Once students decide to take the AP challenge, it's easy to enroll.

- Students can talk to an AP teacher, a school counselor or the AP Coordinator at their school about the courses they want to take, the course workload and any preparation they might need for these university-level courses.
- Students who are home-schooled or who attend a school that does not offer AP can still participate. Each year hundreds of students participate through independent study and take AP Exams in May. In addition, although some schools do not offer AP courses, they may provide students with the option to take AP Exams.
- AP Exams are ordered by and administered in secondary schools around the world.\*

**Below is a small sampling of the more than 1,000 schools outside of the United States that participate in AP:**

American School Foundation of Guadalajara, Mexico

Balboa Academy, Panama City, Panama

Burnaby North Secondary School, British Columbia, Canada

Carol Morgan School, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Colegio Nueva Granada, Bogota, Colombia

Hong Kong International School

International School of Dakar, Senegal

King's Academy, Jordan

Korean Minjok Leadership Academy, Seoul, South Korea

Shanghai American School, China

Singapore American School

The American School in Japan, Tokyo

The American School of Kuwait

The American School in London, United Kingdom

The International School of Brussels, Belgium

**A complete listing of schools that offer approved AP courses is available at [www.collegeboard.com/apcourseledger](http://www.collegeboard.com/apcourseledger).**

\*AP courses and exams in schools in China: China's Ministry of Education requires secondary schools to receive permission from relevant municipal education authorities to administer foreign academic programs such as AP. Please contact [international@collegeboard.org](mailto:international@collegeboard.org) for more information.

# Universities Worldwide Value and Recognize AP Experience

Regardless of whether a student takes an AP Exam in California, Cameroon, Canada, China or Colombia, in the eyes of an experienced admission officer or university faculty, success on an AP Exam demonstrates mastery of university-level concepts and skills within a particular discipline.

- AP is widely recognized. More than 3,600 universities around the world receive AP Exam scores.
- More than 90 percent of four-year colleges and universities in the United States grant advanced placement, credit or both for successful scores on AP Exams, and 85 percent of selective institutions report that a student's AP experience favorably impacts admission decisions.<sup>†</sup>
- In addition, more than 600 universities in over 55 countries outside of the U.S. recognize AP.
- All Canadian colleges and universities offer advanced placement, credit or both for successful AP Exam scores.
- AP is recognized by the vast majority of higher education institutions in the U.K., and countrywide AP policies exist in countries such as Austria, Germany and Norway.
- More than 160 leading institutions in Latin America also recognize AP Exams.

**To learn more about the specific AP policies of each university, please visit the following websites:**

- **AP policies at U.S. colleges and universities:**  
[www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy](http://www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy)
- **AP policies at universities outside the U.S.:**  
[www.collegeboard.com/apintl](http://www.collegeboard.com/apintl)

<sup>†</sup>Unpublished institutional research, Crux Research, Inc. March 2007. For the purpose of this study, "selective institutions" were defined as those where less than 70 percent of applicants were admitted, the mean SAT<sup>®</sup> score was 1025 or higher, and the mean ACT score was 22 or higher.



**“One of the best standard predictors of academic success at Harvard is performance on Advanced Placement Examinations.”**

**— William R. Fitzsimmons  
Dean of Admissions, Harvard University**

**“Because of the rigor of the exam development and scoring process, AP Exam grades are trustworthy measures of knowledge and achievement.”**

**— Roxy Peck  
Former Chief Reader, AP Statistics Development Committee,  
Professor of Statistics, California Polytechnic State University**

The College Board is a not-for-profit membership association whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity. Founded in 1900, the College Board is composed of more than 5,600 schools, colleges, universities and other educational organizations in 51 countries. Each year, the College Board serves seven million students and their parents, 23,000 high schools, and 3,800 colleges through major programs and services in college readiness, college admission, guidance, assessment, financial aid, enrollment, and teaching and learning. Among its best-known programs are the SAT<sup>®</sup>, the PSAT/NMSQT<sup>®</sup> and the Advanced Placement Program<sup>®</sup> (AP<sup>®</sup>). The College Board is committed to the principles of excellence and equity, and that commitment is embodied in all of its programs, services, activities and concerns.

For more information about AP for students and parents, please visit our website:  
[www.collegeboard.com/apstudents](http://www.collegeboard.com/apstudents).

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