

AP EXAMS/REGISTRATION

Parent Informational Meeting

“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 Admissions, University of Arizona*

What are **Advanced Placement** courses?

College level courses taught in a high school environment

- Set of internationally administered High School classes present in over 180 countries

2023 – 5.2 million exams were given to students nationally

- 545 RRHS students currently enrolled in AP courses

Challenging and engaging course work

All programs designed by College professors

- Certification programs for incoming AP teachers
- Recent years – focus on Equity and Access
- Mission: Connect students to university success and opportunity

Explores content further than traditional high school classes

Success on an AP Exam represents mastery of concepts and skills necessary for success in postsecondary studies.

How do AP classes differ from other classes?

- **Possesses a definite timeline**—driven by detailed course descriptions and suggested pacing.
- **It is a College Board approved course**
Teacher created syllabus requires College Board approval
- **Student responsibility shifts to a more collegiate model**
Teacher focuses on skill development and support
Students teach themselves the content
- **Different type of workload**
Focus on self-advocacy and student-directed studying

We have an **AP** course for everyone!

- *Biology*
- *Calculus (AB & BC)*
 - *Chemistry*
- *Computer Science A*
- *Comp. Sci. Principles*
- *English Language*
- *English Literature*
- *Environmental Science*
- *US Gov.t/Politics*
- *Human Geography*
- *Macroeconomics*
- *Microeconomics*
- *Music Theory*
 - *Physics*
- *(I,II, E &M, Mechanics)*
- *Precalculus*
- *Psychology*
- *Spanish Language & Culture*
- *Statistics*
- *Studio Art(Drawing, 3D)*
- *US History*
- *World History*
 - *Seminar*
 - *Research*

AP Merit Schools are schools with at least 20 percent of the student population taking AP exams and at least 50 percent of all AP exams earning scores of 3 or higher.

River Ridge Recognized

AP STEM Schools are schools with students testing in at least two AP math courses and two AP science courses

AP HUMANTIES Schools are schools with students testing in at least two social science courses.

AP STEM Achievement Schools are schools with students testing in at least two AP math courses and two AP science courses, and at least 40 percent of the exam scores on AP math and AP science exams earning scores of 3 or higher.

What are the benefits of AP?

- Students learn demanding college-level content and skills
 - Studies have shown that:
 - Single biggest predictor for success in college is whether students were exposed to rigorous material while in High School
 - Students who score 3 or higher on AP Exams perform as well as or better than university students in the corresponding course.
 - Students who score 3 or higher on AP Exams perform better in college than non-AP students
 - Opportunity to earn valuable credit and placement in college
 - Taking AP is valued in the college admission process
 - Ability to work with like-minded students that enjoy the same academic environment & subjects
 - AP Courses are accepted as “rigor courses” qualifying students for the HOPE Scholarship.
- * Students will be required to have at least 4 rigor courses to qualify *

WHY TAKE AP

challenge
myself

Take charge
of my future

Find subjects
that interest me

Start thinking like
a college student

Over 2,600 colleges
worldwide grant
credit for AP scores

See my hard
work **pay off**

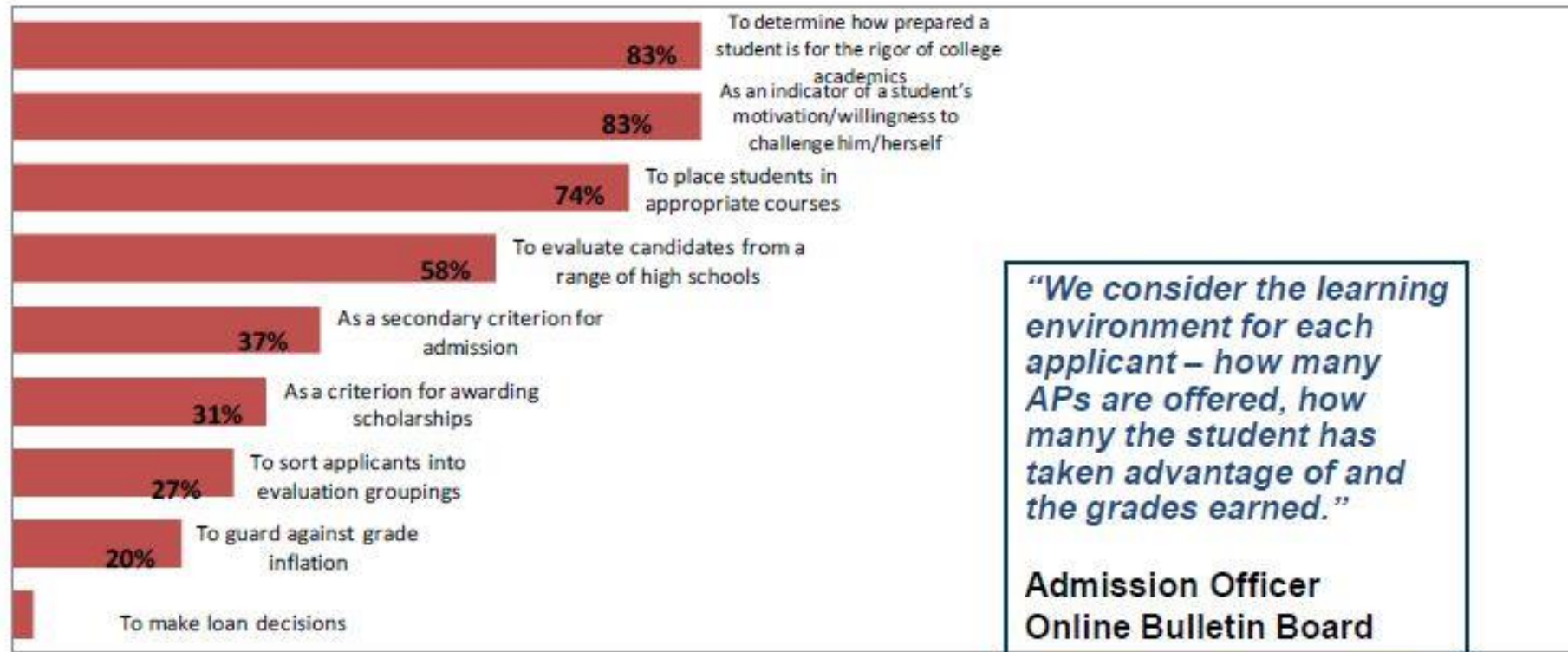
Earn
College
credit

More flexibility in my
college schedule

Get the **experience**
colleges recognize

Field research: Admission officers use AP to determine university preparedness, student motivation and placement

Question: "How does your institution use AP, if at all, to support admission decisions?"

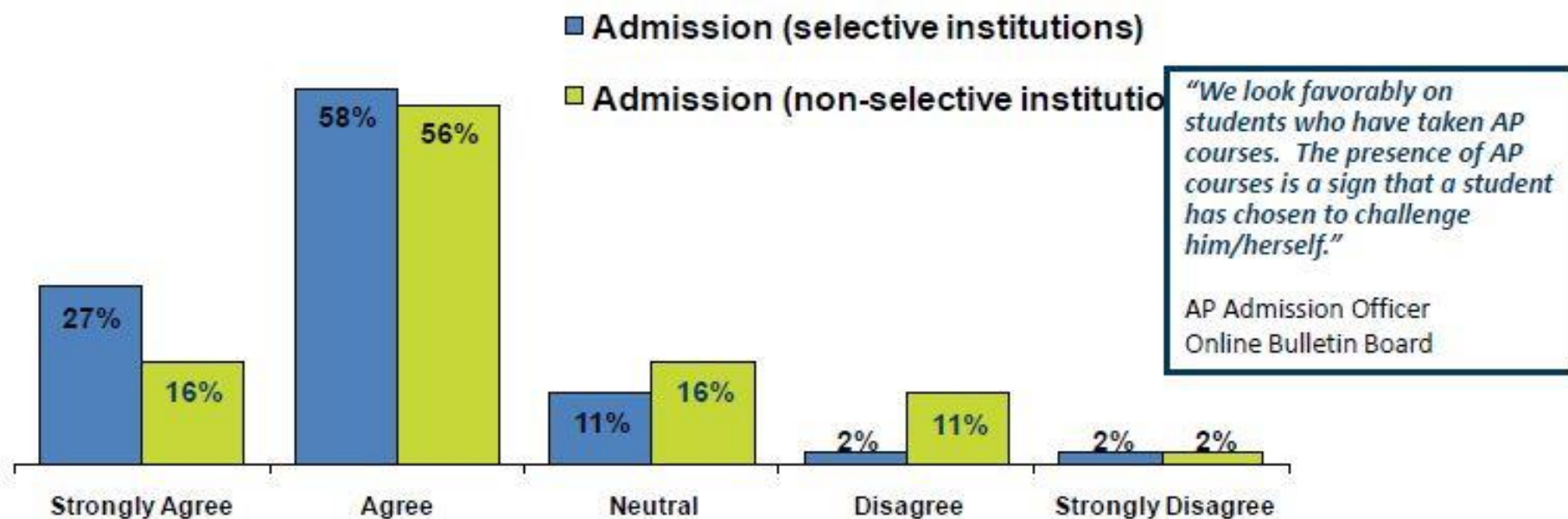


Source: Crux Market Research Inc. (2006): Admission – Q301 Base: (n=125)



Field research: Admission officers from selective institutions are more likely to feel that AP experience helps them make admission decisions

“AP course experience favorably impacts admissions decisions”



Admission – Q340 Base: (n=125)



What are **AP Exams**?

- Standardized, cumulative exams * Given in early May *
- 1008—exams currently signed up for
- AP Exams do not factor into student grades in high school. However, the score on the exam may be used by colleges & universities to issue credit.
- The College Board creates this exam and sets the date, time, and cost of each exam. The cost for one exam this year is \$100. Students qualifying for free/reduced lunch receive their exams for \$53. Any student taking an AP Stem course can get one free AP Stem exam.
- RRHS AP strongly encourages participation in the AP Exam, but participation is not mandatory.

WHAT CAN BE EXPECTED FROM AP CLASSES?

FOR PARENTS

Tips for AP Success

1 Sometimes all it takes is a little encouragement.

Often, students don't believe that they're AP "material." But the truth is that many students have the ability and motivation to succeed in AP courses, if they give themselves a chance. Students do need solid academic preparation and, of course, the commitment to meet the challenge head on. Parents can build students' confidence by reminding them that they already show that determination when they do the things that matter to them in areas such as sports, music or school subjects they're passionate about. That commitment, creativity and curiosity can make all the difference in AP courses.

2 Talk to your child about AP.

It's always a good idea to remind students to pick courses that match their interests, talents and priorities. Remind them to consider the classes they've already taken and the ones they were strong in, enjoyed more or found to be most interesting. Chances are, those courses can be launching pads for successful AP experiences.

3 Set reasonable expectations.

AP courses require students to do research and reading outside of class, and many students participate in study groups or tutoring sessions to stay on track. It's important for students to think about the amount of work they'll have so they can succeed in the courses they choose. You can support your child by designating specific areas in your home for schoolwork and study, and helping prioritize classes, activities, and home and work commitments.

4 It's never too early to start thinking about and planning for AP.

Students can consider taking AP throughout high school, but it's never too early to start the process. There may be honors-level courses or other academic opportunities that can start a student on the road to AP. You can talk to your child's counselor in middle school or high school to map out a course plan.

Visit exploreap.org and share this helpful site with your child.

It's a great place to start a successful AP journey.

WHAT DO WE EXPECT FROM AP STUDENTS?

TEACHER PERSPECTIVE

Be interested

Be motivated

Be engaged

Be proactive

Be willing

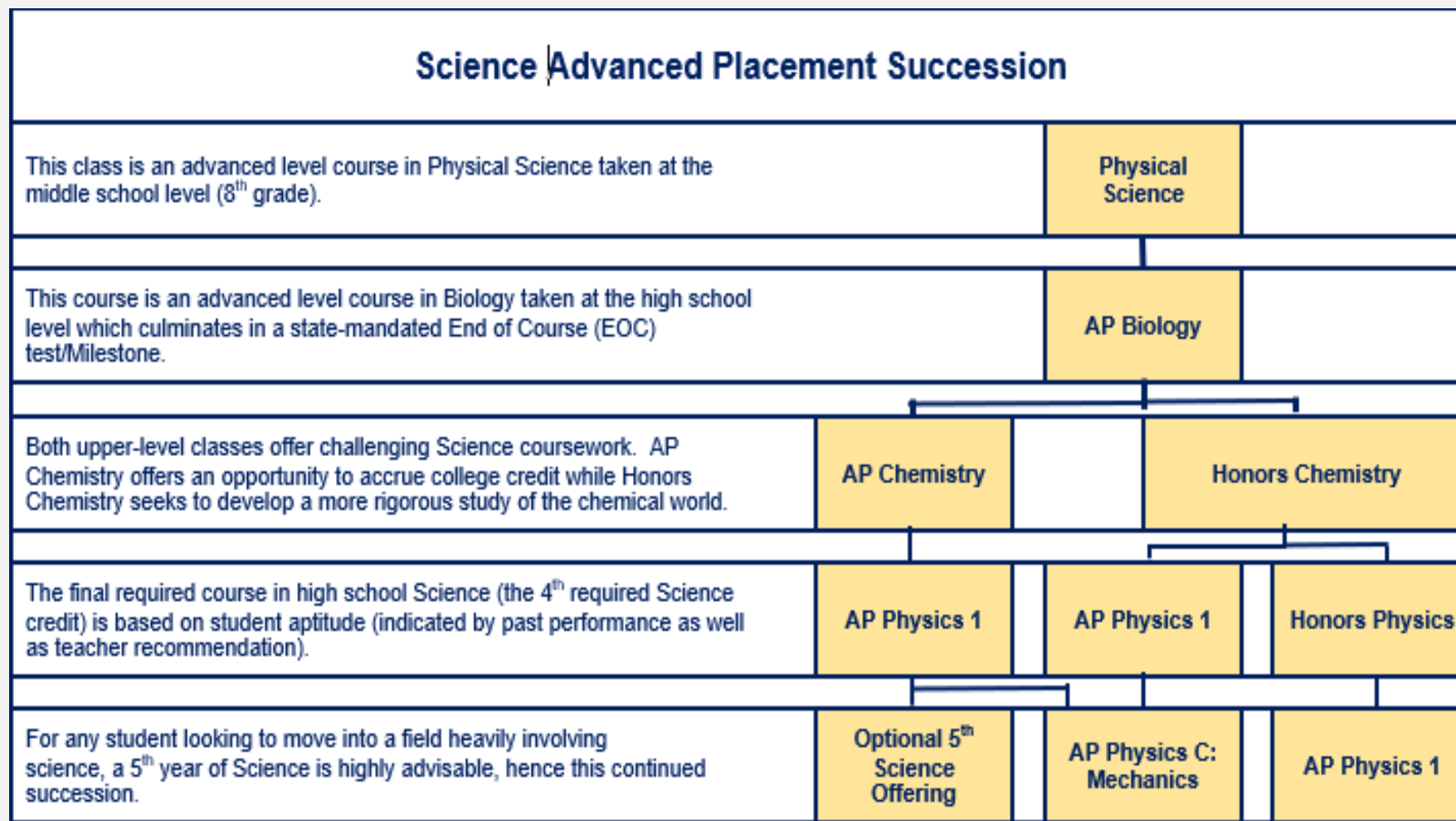
Be prepared

ENROLLING IN AP COURSES

Each course has a different pathway to enter

- **Some courses do not have pre-requisites**
- **Upcoming 9th grade students will only have the opportunity to take AP Biology and AP Human Geography. These students are selected and notified based upon district rubric and academic performance in MS**
- **Many courses can be taken 10th to 12th grade**
- **Some course have specific pathways to follow**
- **Speak with your AP content teachers and counselors if you have interest**

COURSE SUCCESSION-SCIENCE



COURSE SUCCESSION-MATH

Advanced Placement Succession				
This course is an advanced level course in Algebra taken at the middle school level (8 th grade) which culminates in a state-mandated End of Course (EOC) Test/Milestone.	Enhanced Algebra			
This course is an advanced level course encompassing Geometry	Honors Geometry			
This course is the second advanced level course in the algebra sequence, the final course in the honors placement succession. EAAAP gives students the opportunity to advance to Calc AB or BC.	Honors Advanced Algebra		Enhanced Advanced Algebra/AP Precalculus	
The final required course in high school Mathematics (the 4 th required Math credit) is based on student aptitude (indicated by past performance) as well as teacher recommendation. Students showing the highest aptitude qualify for AP Calculus BC.	Precalculus		AP Precalculus	Calculus/AP Calc AB/AP Calc BC
For any student looking to move into a field heavily involving Mathematics, a 5 th year of Math is highly advisable, hence this continued succession. **GA Tech Distance Calculus is subject to acceptance by GA Tech and requires certain scores on the AP Calculus BC exam (see GA Tech website)	AP Calculus AB/BC		Honors Multivariable Calculus <small>Subject to availability</small>	GA Tech Distance Calculus** AP Statistics

COURSE SUCCESSION-ENGLISH

ADVANCED PLACEMENT SUCCESSION	
This class is an advanced level course in literary analysis and composition.	Honors Ninth Literature and Composition
This class is the second advanced level course in literary analysis of multicultural texts and composition, an incredibly important skill-building year moving into junior year when the SAT/ACT/ASBAB are taken.	Honors Multicultural Literature and Composition
This class is an Advanced Placement course focusing on argument and rhetorical analysis within the framework of American Literature. This course culminates in an AP test as well as a state-mandated End of Course (EOC) test/Milestone.	AP English Language and Composition/American Literature *culminates in an AP exam I May
This final course in high school English is based on student aptitude (indicated by past performance) as well as teacher recommendation. This course contains a Senior Project requirement in the first semester.	AP English Literature *culminates in an AP exam in May

COURSE SUCCESSION-WORLD LANGUAGE



RIVER RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

WORLD LANGUAGE PROGRESSION Typical Succession

Admittance into this entry-level World Language course based on student data and teacher recommendation. Can be taken in middle school.

**Spanish 1
French 1**

Movement into Honors-level course dependent on student achievement throughout the year, exit-exam performance, and teacher recommendation

**Spanish 2
French 2**

**Honors Spanish 2
Honors French 2**

Movement into Honors-level course dependent on student achievement throughout the year, exit-exam performance, and teacher recommendation

**Spanish 3
French 3**

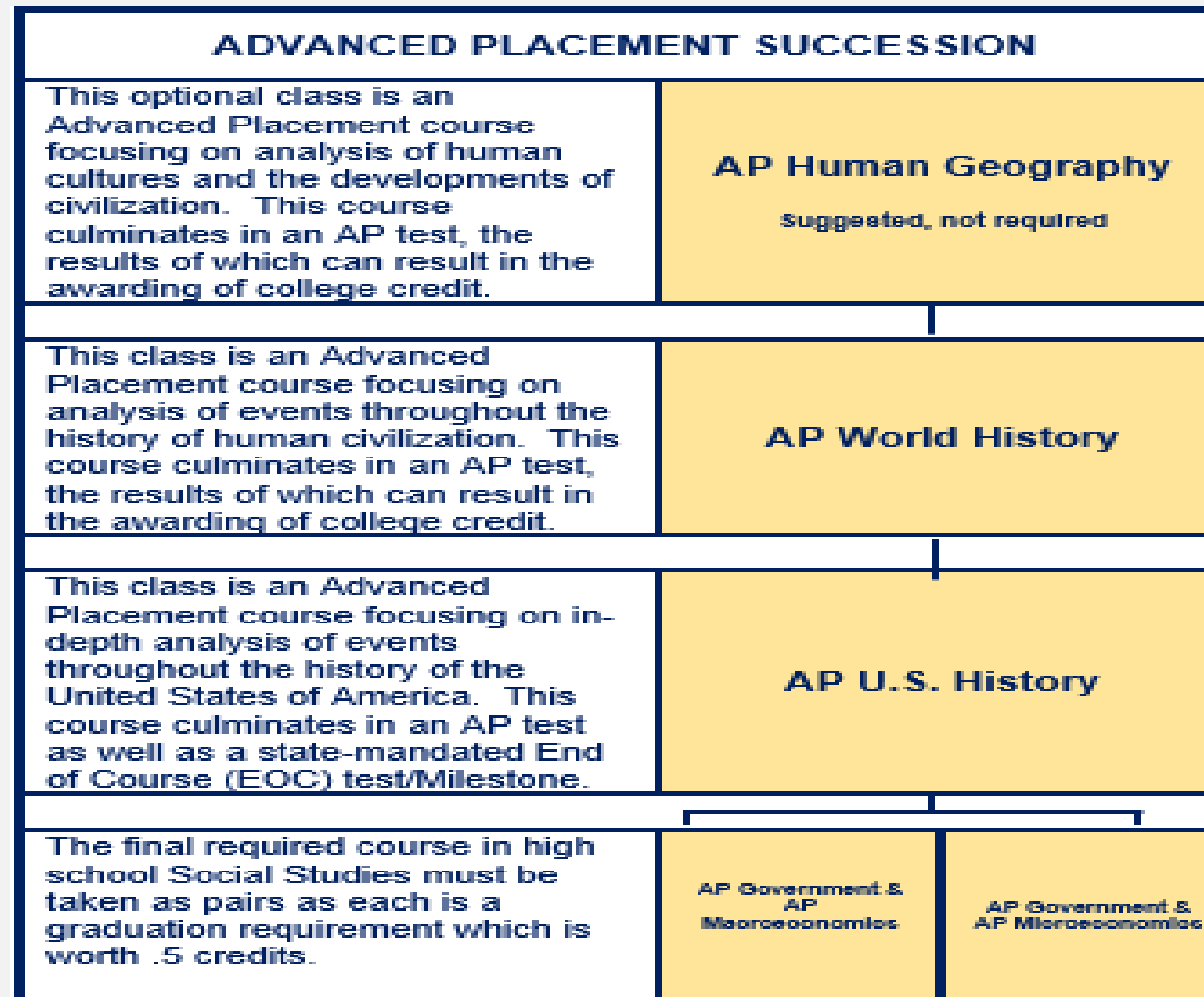
**Honors Spanish 3
Honors French 3**

Due to the rigor required of upper-level courses in World Language, only Honors or AP is offered at the end of the succession. If desired, students may take Honors 4 and then AP Spanish Language

**Honors Spanish 4
Honors French 4**

AP Spanish Language
(AP French if student interest allows)

COURSE SUCCESSION-SOCIAL STUDIES



THANK YOU!

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**For more information, visit the RRHS homepage and click on AP
Class Information**