

College & Career Readiness

College Preparatory Programs:

The AP Pathway



What is Advanced Placement?

Advanced Placement courses are college level. These courses are based on curriculum created by the College Board and are designed for an end-of-year assessment in May. Students who achieve a qualifying score (3 or above) may be eligible for course credit in college.



Why take an AP class?



- AP students learn essential time management and study skills needed for college and career success.
- They dig deeper into subjects that interest them and learn to tap their creativity and their problem-solving skills to address course challenges.
- Former AP students say:
 - *“AP classes are beneficial...they make me feel as though I am learning.”*
 - *“The amount of work is challenging, but I have learned more.”*
 - *“AP classes truly prepared me for college. I was better prepared for the coursework than some of my college classmates because of AP.”*
 - *“I started college as a Sophomore because of the AP Credits.”*
 - *“AP taught me to study and how to write properly in order to succeed in college.”*

CCPS Advanced Placement Vision

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program will provide rigorous and relevant college-level coursework while fostering a challenging yet supportive learning environment. Every student will be encouraged to take AP courses in an area of interest. The AP Program will develop college and career skills necessary for success after graduation.



WHS Advanced Placement Statistics:

39 CCPS students earned AP Scholar Awards in 2024

- of these students were from our school!

17 CCPS students earned AP Scholar with Honor Awards

- of these students were from our school!

15 CCPS students earned AP Scholar with Distinction

- of these students were from our school!

3 students earned AP Capstone diplomas

Blueprint CCR AP Pathway:



Option 1: AP Capstone Diploma

Minimum Number of Required AP Courses: 6

Specific Courses Required: AP Seminar, AP Research, 4 Additional AP Courses

Scores Required: 3 or Higher on all 6 AP exams

Option 2: Maryland AP

Minimum Number of Required AP Courses: 5

Specific Courses Required: At least 2 Courses in the same Content Area; At least 2 Content Areas included

Scores Required: 3 or Higher on at least 3 AP exams

Additional Requirement to complete Pathway: A score of C or higher in all courses

Grade-specific AP Courses		Other AP Course Options
9 th	AP Government & Politics	<p>No pre-requisite courses: AP Computer Science Principles AP European History AP Human Geography AP Macroeconomics or Microeconomics AP Psychology AP Statistics</p> <p>With completed pre-requisites: AP Computer Science A AP Biology AP Calculus AB and/or BC AP Chemistry AP Drawing, 2D Art, or 3D Art AP Environmental Science AP Literature AP Music Theory AP Physics 1, 2, CM, C E&M AP Precalculus AP World Languages</p>
10 th	AP Seminar as English 10 AP US History	
11 th	AP Language & Composition AP World History: Modern	
12 th	AP Research	

How do we support students for success in AP and college-level courses?

Provide a strong background in reading and writing skills.

English 9: Pre-AP 2

In Pre-AP, students have frequent opportunities to engage deeply with texts, sources, and data, as well as compelling higher-order questions and problems. Instructional practices and routines help them develop the important critical thinking skills needed to succeed in AP.

English 10: AP Seminar

Why AP Seminar in English 10?

1. People do not stay in a job for 20, 25 years like they used to
2. People need to keep learning once they are in a job

Bottom Line: change happens more often nowadays – people either change positions ... and learn new stuff or people need to stay relevant in their positions ... and learn new stuff.

Common denominator here: People need to **keep learning** – this is the biggest change to modern employment

Students:

- Learn applicable skills to help **in college and career**
- Conduct independent **research** and learn how to use **evidence to support their ideas**
- **Work in teams** to investigate a topic of choice
- Make a **presentation**

“Doing real-world investigations and offering research-based solutions has produced critical thinkers who are motivated to do something in their community.”

James Wszolek
AP Seminar Teacher,
English Department Co-Chair
La Porte High School

AP Courses by Content Area

Course Content Areas	Course/Exam	
English/Language Arts & Research	AP English Language and Composition AP English Literature and Composition	AP Seminar AP Research
Mathematics	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC	AP Precalculus AP Statistics
Science	AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Environmental Science AP Physics 1: Algebra-Based	AP Physics 2: Algebra-Based AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism AP Physics C: Mechanics
Social Studies	AP Comparative Government and Politics AP European History AP Human Geography AP Macroeconomics AP Microeconomics	AP Psychology AP United States Government and Politics AP United States History AP World History: Modern
Arts	AP 2-D Art and Design AP 3-D Art and Design	AP Drawing AP Music Theory
Computer Sciences	AP Computer Science A	AP Computer Science Principles
World Languages	AP French Language and Culture AP German Language and Culture	AP Spanish Language and Culture AP Spanish Literature and Culture

Pathways through AP

- What AP classes and how many to take each year depends on your student!
- For students nervous about high school, the level of rigor, balancing lots of commitments: we recommend a **1, 2, 3 model for AP.**
- For gifted & talented identified students and highly able learners, these are our most challenging academic courses—you are ready for this! Start with **two AP classes** in 9th grade!
- **PLAY** to your strengths! Take classes that interest you, you enjoy, and that you are strong in!

AP Course Sequence Examples:



Grade	Humanities Strengths	STEM Strengths
9 th	AP Government	AP Computer Science Principles
10 th	English 10: AP Seminar AP US History AP Human Geography	English 10: AP Seminar AP Statistics or AP Comp Sci A AP Physics 1 (with pre-req math)
11 th	AP Language & Composition AP World History: Modern AP Psych or AP Art/Music	AP Language & Composition AP Chemistry, Biology, or Physics 2 AP Precalculus
12 th	AP Research AP Literature & Composition AP Spanish Language & Composition AP European History	AP Research AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Physics C Mechanics or E & M AP Environmental Science

Balancing Advanced Placement with other Advanced Academic Opportunities

- AP classes are most rigorous, highly weighted courses we offer
- Advanced Academic Career pathways and completers: Project Lead the Way Engineering or, Biomedical Science, Academy of Finance, Computer programming, etc.
- Dual enrollment opportunities
- Internship during senior year



AP Pathway Sample Schedules:

Grade	Sample Schedule 1		Sample Schedule 2	
9th	English 9: Pre-AP 2 AP or Hon. US Government AP Computer Science Principles Honors Geometry	Honors Conceptual Physics Spanish II Physical Education (.5) Health 1(.5) Art 1	English 9: Pre-AP 2 AP US Government AP Computer Science Principles AP Physics	Honors Algebra II Honors Chemistry of Earth and Space Science Spanish II Honors Symphonic Band
10th	English 10: AP Seminar AP US History AP Human Geography Honors Algebra II Honors Spanish III	Honors Chemistry of Earth and Space Science Honors Biology Health II (.5) Team Sports (.5) Honors Drawing	English 10: AP Seminar AP US History AP Computer Science A AP Precalculus AP Physics 2	Honors Biology Physical Education (.5) Health 1(.5) Honors Ensemble
11th	AP Language & Composition AP World History: Modern AP Precalculus AP Environmental Science	Honors Digital Media & Design Honors Spanish IV Managing Personal Finances Using Excel	AP Language & Composition AP Chemistry AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Music Theory	Honors Spanish III Health II (.5) Weight Training (.5) Managing Personal Finances Using Excel Honors Jazz Ensemble
12th	AP Research AP Literature & Composition AP Statistics AP Studio Art: 3D Design AP Studio Art: 2D Design	AP Spanish Lang & Comp AP Psychology Honors Yearbook Production	AP Research AP Physics C Electricity & Magnetism AP Environmental Science AP Human Geography	AP Music Theory AP Chemistry Honors Jazz Ensemble MATH 215: Differential Equations (CCC)

Why does AP matter for college?



- Students who take AP courses send a signal to colleges that they're serious about their education and that they're willing to challenge themselves with rigorous coursework
- **85% of selective colleges and universities report that a student's AP experience favorably impacts admissions decisions.**
- Research shows that students who receive a score of 2 on their AP Exams are ready for college work.
- **Research shows that students who receive a score of 3 or higher on AP Exams typically experience greater academic success in college and have higher graduation rates than their non-AP peers.**
- 3 out of 4 AP students enrolled in a four-year college start school with some AP credit.
- Many colleges not requiring SAT scores for admission; AP is a global credential and serves as an indicator of how a student compares to other applicants world-wide.
- Research shows that students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely than their peers to complete a college degree on time.

AP helps our students STAND OUT!!!



45%

60,147 applied
Of those, 5,812 enrolled
26,944 admitted

82% enrolled with college credit

58%- admitted without SAT or ACT scores

From TU admissions:

**We want
CCPS students to
STAND OUT!!!**



“When reviewing your academic credentials, we look at your cumulative weighted GPA, the rigor of your courses, trends in your grade performance, and your high school’s profile — all these factors go into a holistic academic review. Most of our admitted students have a good mix of grades in a challenging college-prep curriculum, and for fall 2023 our average admitted student had a 3.93 cumulative weighted GPA.”

Benefits of AP Courses

- Get familiarity with college-level work and build your confidence at doing hard things!
- Develop skills for success in college, career, and life: time management, critical thinking, scholarly writing, collaboration.
- Discover your passion! AP classes go in depth and could give you insights into a subject that you love– or hate– before you get to college or start a career.
- Boost your gpa– AP classes are worth more quality points and increase your weighted gpa!



Benefits of taking an AP Exam

- The opportunity prepare for high-stakes, college-level exams with **high school assistance and support**.
- Test are in early May. . a month left in school without the pressure!
- Qualifying scores often receive **credit** (core credit or elective credit)
- Students can be eligible for **early scheduling, interesting electives, or housing preference** in college.



How can we help?

Flex Review Sessions

After School Reviews

AP Central for Students

Financially: CCPS covers cost



Why Consider Dual Enrollment?

- Earn high school and college credit while still in high school.
- Guaranteed credit at in-state public colleges.
- Challenge through independent learning
- Less time in class- two days/week class time
- Take advantage of diverse course offerings
- Start working towards associate's degree

Why take AP classes?

- Competitive four-year college admissions counselors want to see a strong schedule.
- Preparation for the expectations of college level coursework - and the real world!
- AP classes now serve as an indicator of how a student compares to other applicants from around the world.
- Research shows that success in an AP class is a good indication students WILL be successful in college.
- Potential for college credit through AP exams.



College Board, *New Analyses of AP Scores of 1 and 2*, June 2021.

College Board, *Trends in College Pricing and Student Aid 2021*, October 2021.

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The College Board, *The 10th Annual AP Report to the Nation*, February 11, 2014.

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