



**AP Classes:  
Preparing for  
Success**



## **What are AP Classes?**

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM® (AP®)  
COURSES ARE COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSES OFFERED IN  
HIGH SCHOOL.**

**AP courses reflect what is taught in top  
introductory college courses.**

**At the end of the course, students take AP Exams  
that measure how well students have mastered  
college-level course work.**

**Students who do well on AP Exams can earn credit  
and/or placement into advanced courses in  
college.**





## Why AP Classes?

85% of selective colleges and universities report that a student's AP experience **favorably impacts** admission decisions.

“We look favorably on students who have taken AP courses. The presence of AP courses is a sign that a student has chosen to challenge him/herself.”

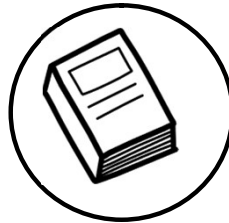
—Admission Officer



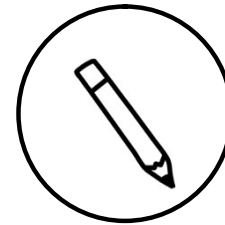
# Why AP Classes



AP courses demand more of students than regular honors courses.



AP courses are fast-paced and cover more material than an average high school class.



AP teachers teach students to think critically, analyze and synthesize facts and data, weigh competing perspectives, and write clearly and persuasively.



# Benefits of AP Classes

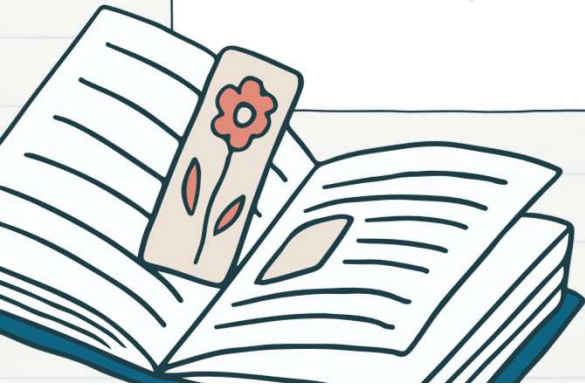
Research shows that when students are given access to advanced coursework opportunities, they:

Work harder.  
Engage more in school.  
Have fewer absences/suspensions.  
Graduate at higher rates.

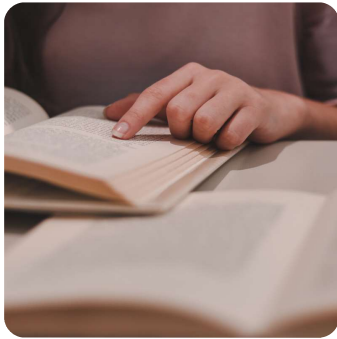
**“The AP credits I received allowed me to skip straight to higher-level, more demanding courses in my major.”**  
**Tyler V., University of Washington**

Research shows that when students are enrolled in an AP class, they:

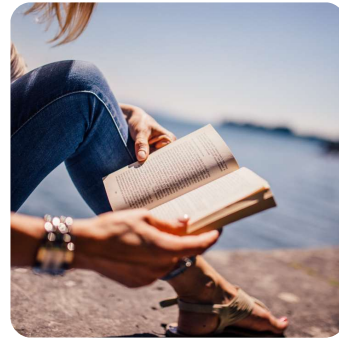
1. Are more likely to stay in college
2. Do well in college courses
3. Graduate in 4 years with a degree



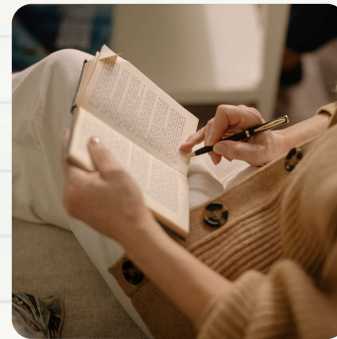
# Benefits of AP Classes



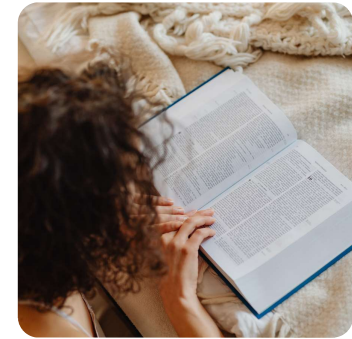
Allows students to get a taste of college in order to tweak your practices before you enter college.



Help to fine tune critical thinking, time management, and study skills.



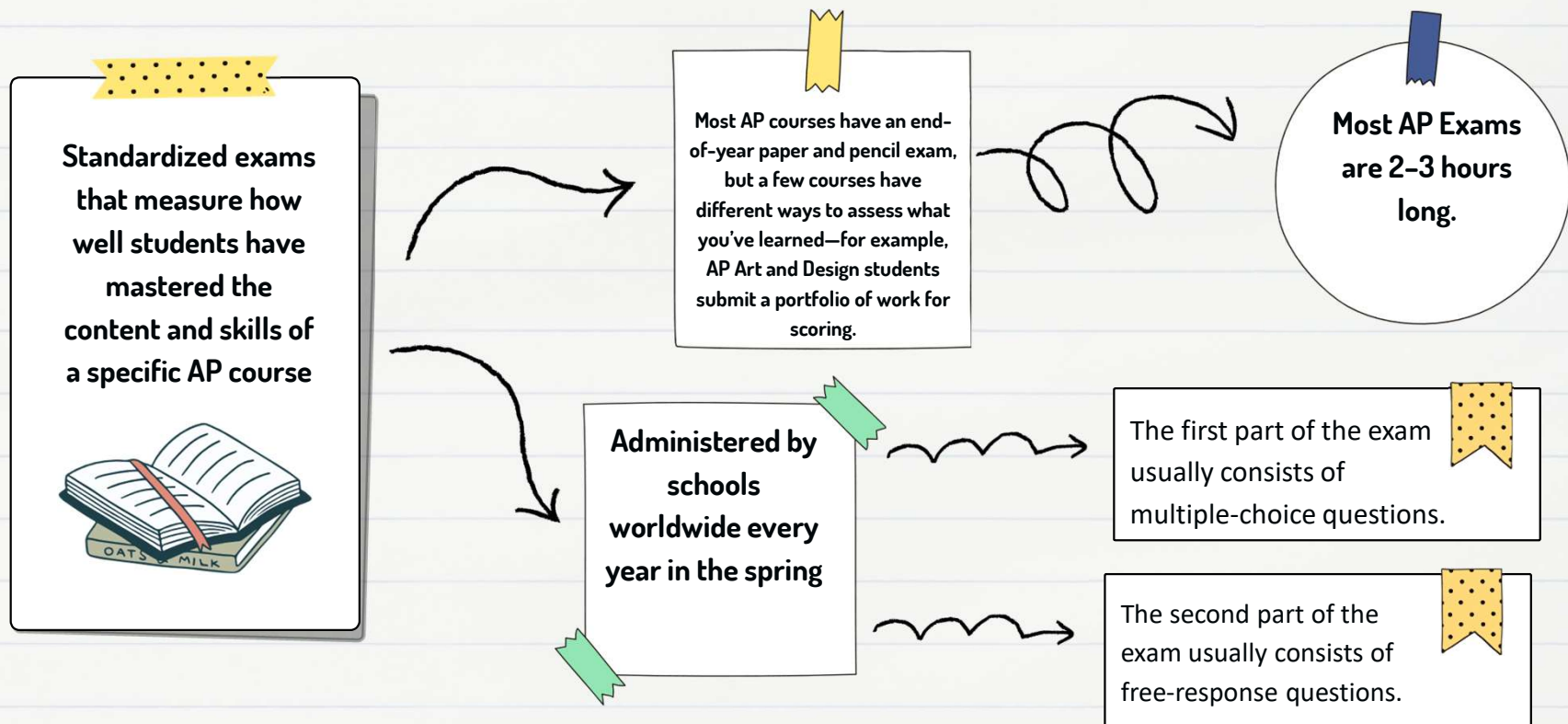
Helps you stand out on a college application.



AP scores can help you skip introductory college courses.



# AP Exams





# Advanced Placement Grading

The AP grade scale ranges from 1 to 5:

## Grade Meaning:

- 5 Extremely well qualified
- 4 Well qualified
- 3 Qualified
- 2 Possibly qualified
- 1 No recommendation





# Cost of AP Exams

## Cost May 2024

Free for Houston  
County students

## Cost May 2025

Parents Pay \$98 per  
exam. Students may  
take multiple exams.

## Fee Reductions

Free or reduced lunch  
students get 1 free  
exam and then pay  
\$53 per exam.



# Things to Consider Before you Commit



Deciding on which and how many AP courses a student should take is a team effort that includes students, parents, and teachers.



AP classes are yearlong commitments.



Data such as class grades and PSAT scores can be a great indicator of potential success but are not the only factors to consider.

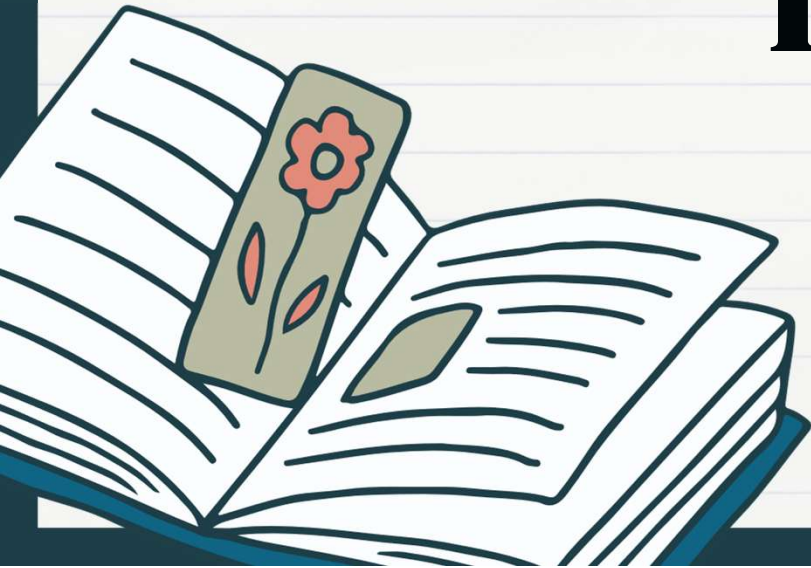


Motivation, time management, and determination are factors that while hard to measure, can drastically affect success in AP classes as well as college.



**DE or AP?**

**What is the Best Choice  
for Me?**



# Dual Enrollment Facts

**Dual Enrollment**  
Offered through local colleges and various tech schools



**Classes are a Semester Long**  
Taught semester/quarter style  
The curriculum will differ by college.

You must keep up with your own grades.  
Retakes or grade replacement are not options.

**Transportation**  
U.S. History, English, Economics and Sociology are offered at PHS  
Other classes and online options are offered at various colleges and you must provide your own transportation..

You must pass the class to receive credit.  
Transfer of credits may vary from college to college

Teacher support is limited to office hours for professors which are only on specific days and times during the day. Campuses do offer support centers for peer help.

# Advanced Placement

## 01. Year long classes

- Material is standardized across the nation

## 03. Rigorous

- Large breadth of material
- Very in-depth material

## 02. College Credit

- AP exam score will determine credit
- Acceptable scores are posted on College Board website for each college

## 04. Teacher Support

- Taught by PHS teachers

## Conclusion

Each student is unique

Consider your future – college major and career

- If it is required for your career and major consider taking the AP course to have a year-long solid foundation
- If you are passionate and want to learn as much about a class as possible, consider the AP course as it is a year-long
- If a course is strictly a pre-requisite credit, you may want to take DE to complete the course quicker
- If you are planning to complete a degree at the partnering college consider taking DE to jumpstart your degree program requiring no transfer of credits



# AP Registration Process



- Registration forms and one-page class descriptions will be available January 26th in the commons area.



- Students/parents review, complete, and sign the registration form and return it to the basket in the counselors' office on or before February 2nd.



- Students applying for one or two courses with appropriate pre-requisites will be pre-registered for the course(s). Teacher recommendations are considered when creating student schedules.
- Students will be notified of classes that will not make due to lack of interest and advised of recommendations from the AP Committee if there is an academic concern.


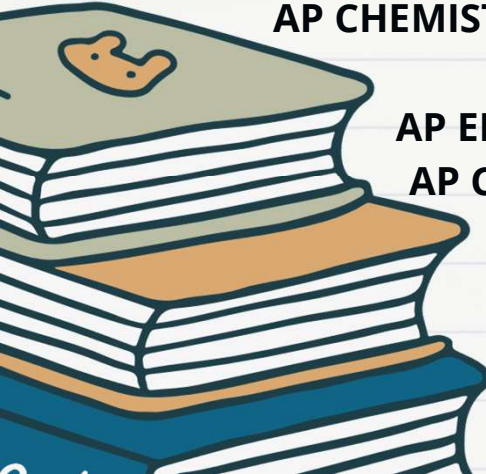






**ENGLISH**    AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE (MRS. JACKSON) -JUNIORS/ SENIORS  
AP ENGLISH LITERATURE (MRS. BRAY) -SENIORS

**MATH**    AP CALCULUS AB (MRS. GENTRY) -ACCELERATED MATH SENIORS  
AP STATISTICS (MRS. FRANK)- JUNIORS/SENIORS  
AP PRECALCULUS (MRS. GENTRY) - ACCELERATED MATH JUNIORS

**SCIENCE**    AP BIOLOGY (MRS. LORD) -SOPHOMORES/JUNIORS/SENIORS  
AP CHEMISTRY (MRS. KNAPEK) -JUNIORS/SENIORS - MUST HAVE COMPLETED  
REGULAR/HONORS CHEMISTRY TO BE ELIGIBLE  
AP ENVIRONMENTAL (MRS. BARAJAS) -SOPHOMORES -SENIORS  
AP COMPUTER SCIENCE (MR. DUNBAR) -JUNIORS/SENIORS







**SOCIAL STUDIES**    **AP WORLD HISTORY (DR. HERBERT) -SOPHOMORES/SENIORS**  
**AP US HISTORY (MRS. COPELAND) -JUNIORS**  
**AP MACROECONOMICS (MR. DOOLEY) -SENIORS**  
**AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (MRS. NORTHERN) -FRESHMEN**

**FINE ARTS**    **AP STUDIO ART (MRS. WALKER) -JUNIORS/SENIORS**  
**AP MUSIC THEORY (MRS. DUMAS)**



**ELECTIVES**    **AP PSYCHOLOGY (DR. HERBERT) -JUNIORS/SENIORS**