The Advanced Placement Program (AP)
AP 101

Lynn Demmons
Senior Educational Manager, K-12
I. What is AP?
II. AP & College Enrollment
III. AP Central
IV. New Developments in AP
V. AP Students in 2013
VI. Resources and References
Poll Question

How many AP courses are offered in your school/district?

- A. No courses
- B. 1-3 courses
- C. 4-6 courses
- D. 7 or more courses
What Is AP?

- Provides willing and academically prepared high school students with the opportunity to study and learn at the college level

- 34 courses and exams in a variety of subject areas

- Each AP course is modeled on a comparable college course.

- AP courses culminate in college-level exams developed and scored by college and university faculty.
AP Exams

**Arts**
- Art History
- Music Theory
- Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio
- Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio
- Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio

**English**
- English Language & Composition
- English Literature & Composition

**History & Social Science**
- Comparative Government & Politics
- European History
- Human Geography
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics
- Psychology
- US Government & Politics
- **US History**
- World History

**Mathematics & Computer Science**
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Computer Science A
- Statistics

**Natural Sciences**
- **Biology**
- **Chemistry**
- Environmental Science
- **Physics B**
- Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism
- Physics C: Mechanics

**World Languages**
- Chinese Language & Culture
- **French Language & Culture**
- German Language
- Italian Language & Culture
- Japanese Language & Culture
- **Latin**
- Spanish Language
- **Spanish Literature**
How Are AP Scores Determined?

- Combination of the scores for the free-response and multiple-choice sections of the exam.

- For each exam, boundaries for the five AP grades are determined using:
  - Statistical data
  - Previous grade distributions
  - Statistical equating
  - Comparability studies
  - Standard-setting studies
AP Exam Scores Can Be Used for Appropriate Placement and to Award Credit to Capable Students

- Exams are scored on a 1-5 scale. The College Board and the American Council on Education (ACE) recommend awarding credit for AP scores of 3 or higher.

- Students who earn credit and placement for AP Exam scores tend to earn more credits overall, particularly in the subject area in which they took the exam.
AP Exam Scores Represent Recommendations for College Credit and/or Placement

AP scores are reported on a 5-point scale.

1. No recommendation
2. Possibly Qualified
3. Qualified
4. Well Qualified
5. Extremely Well Qualified

- Equivalent to grades of B-, C+, and C in the corresponding college course
- Equivalent to grades of A-, B+, and B in the corresponding college course
- Equivalent to grades of A and A+ in the corresponding college course

Credit & Placement
AP and College Enrollment
AP and Admission

Most colleges use AP as a factor in evaluating candidates for admission.

- **Consistency**: As a nationally recognized program, offers a consistent measure of academic achievement.

- **Evidence of rigor**: Shows exposure to rigorous, college-level curriculum—a key element of college readiness.

- **Priority admission**: Can be used as admission criteria for special programs or honors colleges.
How Does AP Fit Within the College Admission and Enrollment Process?

*Here’s how institutions have used AP to help meet enrollment goals.*

**Student Identification**
- Identify prepared and motivated students

**Recruitment**
- Recruit to specific majors
- Provide an incentive to high-achieving students

**Admission**
- Consistent measure of academic achievement

**Credit & Placement**
- Appropriate course placement, contributing to efficient enrollment management

**Academic Success**
- Student success in sequent courses
- Graduation
Use AP Data to Identify Students for Recruitment

AP Course Audit

CONTACT AP COURSE AUDIT

AP Course Ledger

The AP Course Ledger lists secondary school courses offered worldwide that are authorized to include the AP® designation when listed on students' transcripts. These courses were reviewed by the Advanced Placement Program® (AP) as part of the AP Course Audit for the academic years listed on the school's "Authorized AP Courses" page.

Quick Search

Enter a High School Name or College Board School Code
Get Connected through AP Central

- Visit [apcentral.collegeboard.org](http://apcentral.collegeboard.org)
- Teacher Community/Electronic discussion groups
- Tips, tools, and resources for AP teachers
- Up-to-date information on courses, exams
- Opportunities for professional growth
- AP Program data, research, and statistics
## Course Descriptions

The College Board® Advanced Placement Program offers 37 courses in 22 disciplines. In this section, you can select the official AP Course Description for the most up-to-date information about the course and exam. To access the course of your choice, choose it from the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Biology</th>
<th>Calculus AB</th>
<th>Calculus BC</th>
<th>Chemistry</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chinese Language and Culture</td>
<td>Computer Science AB</td>
<td>Computer Science AB</td>
<td>English Language and Composition</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>European History</td>
<td>French Language</td>
<td>German Language</td>
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<td>Government and Politics, Comparative</td>
<td>Government and Politics, United States</td>
<td>Italian Language and Culture</td>
<td>Japanese Language and Culture</td>
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<td>Latin Literature</td>
<td>Latin: Vergil</td>
<td>Macroeconomics</td>
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- AP Courses and Exams
- Course Descriptions
- The Course Audit
- Sample Syllabi
- Teachers' Resources
- Exam Calendar and Fees
- Exam Questions
- AP Credit Policy Information

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**We Listened:**

- New Features

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**AP Central:**

- HOME
- MY AP CENTRAL
- AP COURSES AND EXAMS
- PRE-AP
- AP COMMUNITY
- INSTITUTES AND WORKSHOPS

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**Print Page**

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**Register** or **Sign In**?

Remember Me is set to ON ... Turn Off?
AP Course Audit

• Provides teachers and administrators with clear guidelines on curricular and resource requirements that must be in place for AP courses

• Gives colleges and universities confidence that AP courses are designed to meet the same clearly articulated college-level criteria across high schools

More information is on the AP Course Audit website: www.collegeboard.org/apcourseaudit
AP Course Audit Process

- Eligible authorized courses must be renewed annually.

- New courses must have an approved syllabus and AP Course Audit form submitted by both the teacher and a school administrator.

- Only AP courses offered during the current school year should be renewed.

- January 31 is the final deadline for first-time submissions, all renewals, and all AP Course Audit form approvals for that school year’s AP courses.

▶ More Information
www.collegeboard.org/apcoordinatortutorial.
AP Course Audit Administrators will have access to:

- Current Year Score Summary
- School Score Roster (customizable)
- AP Equity and Excellence
- Subject Score Roster (customizable)
- AP Instructional Planning Report
- AP Instructional Planning Report - by sec
- Subject Score Report
- College and University Totals
Poll Question

• Have you used any of the resources presented today?
• A. Yes
• B. No
New Developments in AP
AP Course & Exam Redesign

As part of our commitment to continually enhance alignment with current practices in college-level learning, the AP Program is evaluating and redesigning courses and exams.

- Begins with courses and exams in world language, history, and science subjects
- Represents a collaboration among college faculty, AP teachers, and learning and assessment specialists
- Is designed to meet colleges’ expectations of student outcomes for the comparable college course
Key Components of the Revised AP Courses and Exams

- Curricula, modeled upon introductory college courses, that strike a balance between breadth of content coverage and depth of understanding
- Greater emphasis on critical thinking, inquiry, reasoning, and communication
- Standards informed by:
  - Recommendations of researchers and national disciplinary organizations
  - Results of curriculum studies conducted at four-year institutions
  - Leading pedagogical and measurement practices
AP Course Launch Schedule

Fall 2011
- French Language & Culture
- German Language & Culture

Fall 2012
- Biology
- Latin
- Spanish Language & Culture

Fall 2013
- Chemistry
- Spanish Language & Literature

Fall 2014
- Physics 1: Algebra-Based
- Physics 2: Algebra-Based
- United States History
Free Practice Exams for 14 Subjects

• New practice exams in 14 AP subjects are now available to AP teachers, via the AP Course Audit website.

• These are complete versions of the exams which were administered internationally in 2012.

• Features: multiple-choice answer key, free-response scoring guidelines, scoring worksheet
AP® Resources for Promoting AP

• Choose AP
  • This brochure can help you talk to students about the unique benefits of the AP Program. Available in Spanish.

• PowerPoint for Parents
  • This presentation can be used at parents’ nights to help introduce parents to AP.

• AP and the Cost of College flyer
  • This information sheet shows how AP can help students and parents mitigate the cost of college.

www.collegeboard.org/shareap
I ARGUED MORE THAN 50 SUPREME COURT CASES IN AP GOV. WHAT'S NEXT?

APscore®
collegeboard.org/apscore

First, celebrate! Second, find out how all your hard work pays off. With APscore®. It’s got information, resources, and tools to take the next step on your AP journey.

Coming July 13, 2013.
ExploreAP.org

CURiosity

It's part of you.

Maybe you didn't know that in AP you get to move beyond the textbook. And investigate the real world. Or that part of what it takes to take an AP course is something that's already in you.

Like a questioning mind. And a bit of grit.

Explore AP. Talk to a counselor or teacher today.

exploreap.org
AP Students in 2013
Who Participates in AP?

• 16,000+ secondary schools worldwide are authorized to offer AP courses

• In 2013, more than 2 million students took nearly 3.8 million exams

• 5,400+ college faculty develop and score the AP Exams

• About 3,300 colleges receive AP Exam scores annually

• The American Council on Education reviews AP Exams every 3-4 years and sets credit-granting and placement recommendations.
How Many Students Participate and Succeed?

More students are succeeding on AP Exams today than took exams in 2001.

Source: 9th Annual AP Report to the Nation, 2013
Why Do They Take AP Courses?

Students take AP to be exposed to academic rigor and to establish college-level skills.

- 75% Challenge myself academically
- 67% Build skills I'll need to succeed at college
- 63% Stand out in the admission process
- 55% Interested in a specific AP subject area
- 49% Save money by earning college credit
- 44% Place out of an intro course

Source: Crux Market Research Inc., 2007: Q310
How Has the AP Test-Taking Population Changed?

AP continues to serve an increasing number of underrepresented students.

**2002**
- 16% underrepresented minority
- 8% low-income

**2012**
- 24% underrepresented minority
- 21% low-income

Source: AP exam administration data, 2002-2012
AP Access: Exam Fee Reduction

The College Board believes the cost of an AP Exam should not be a barrier for low-income students.

- AP Exams cost $89.
- The College Board provides a $28 fee reduction per exam for students with financial need. Secondary schools should forgo the $8/per exam rebate they receive for each exam, resulting in a cost of $53 per exam for the student.
- Most states use federal and/or state funds to help cover all or part of the remaining cost to the student.
- More information on state exam fee subsidies: www.collegeboard.org/apexamfeeassistance
# Building an AP Program: A 6-Point Plan

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Announce a major commitment to equity in AP.</th>
<th>Launch high-profile public campaigns to increase student access to and success in AP courses.</th>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Conduct an inventory of current AP offerings and capacity.</td>
<td>Determine extent and rigor of AP and pre-AP offerings in high schools; Require all high schools to offer AP courses in at least the four core areas: Mathematics, Science, English and Social Studies</td>
</tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Support professional development for AP and Pre-AP teachers, administrators</td>
<td>Offer year-round training for AP and Pre-AP teachers and hands-on professional development for school and district leaders.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Align middle and high school curricula.</td>
<td>Establish team teaching of AP skills throughout feeder and AP courses through vertical teaming, SpringBoard, PLCs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Use data to inform curriculum, identify AP students, increase participation/performance</td>
<td>Administer the PSAT/NMSQT to 9th-11th graders; use the free AP Potential program to identify those students likely to succeed on AP Exams, based on those scores. Use SOAS and District Integrated Summary Reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Support students.</td>
<td>Implement AP exam reviews, study groups, Khan Academy, summer bridge programs; offset the AP Exam fee for low-come students</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Poll Question

How did you learn about today’s webinar?

A. Email
B. Southern Regional Office Newsletter
C. Professional Development Flyer/Brochure
D. District/State request
E. CB Website
F. State Website
Thank you for your participation!
Questions or Comments?

For more information, contact:

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