

Advanced Placement Information Night

Wauwatosa West High
School

Wednesday,
January 10



What is Advanced Placement?

“The College Board’s Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) enables willing and academically prepared students to pursue college-level studies — with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement or both — while still in high school.”

Expectations in an AP Class

- These are college courses.
- Texts and assignments often written for a college level reading ability.
- Significant time commitment is required outside class to do readings, etc.
- Registering for the class is a commitment to complete the entire year.
- Students are required to learn independently.
Mastery of some chapters may be required for the exam without any class time discussion.

Pros of AP Classes

ONE

Strongest preparation for success in college.

Student is ready for college curriculum.

Freshman year in college is an easier transition.

Pros of AP Classes (Continued)

Admission rate to college is higher
Colleges look at success (A's or B's) in AP Classes as proven indicators of success in college.

Note: receiving a 'C' does not indicate the student cannot be successful, but they may need additional preparation.
Colleges still view taking the risk as positive.

Admissions departments for selective schools prefer to see the most rigorous courses (AP).

Pros of AP Classes (Continued)

Gaining knowledge in preparation for college courses.

You can decide not to use the score for credit
OR the college might not accept AP scores.

In some subject areas, it may be better to take the freshman college course.

What is an AP Exam?

- Standardized test administered by the College Board (same company that does the SAT)
- 2-3 ½ hours in length
- Given nationally on the same day and time
- Scored on a scale of 1-5 (5 being the highest)

Pros of AP Exam

If the student scores well on the AP exam, and the university accepts AP scores for credit, the student has college credit.

Typically, a score of three or higher on the AP exam will yield credit from the college.

Taking an AP Exam prepares a student for high stakes college assessments and final exams.

Pros of AP Exam (Continued)

Credit in the student's major could be used to skip INTRO college courses and place them into higher level classes as a college freshman.

Credit in an area outside the student's major could be used to meet general university graduation requirements.

Pros of AP Exam (Continued)

Earning AP Credit could:

Allow a student to pick up another major or minor.

Help ensure a student graduates in 4 years.

Allow more elective choices with the 4 years.

Potentially allow the student to graduate in less than 4 years.

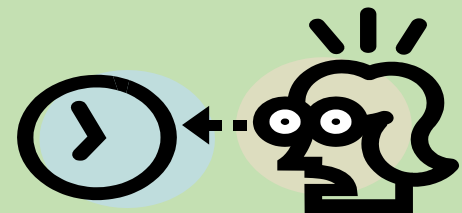
Score Report

Test Scores are Cumulative

- All Exam test scores are one score report.
- **Seniors** will identify what schools they would like to receive their score report. (scores are not used for admission consideration)
- Score reports arrive online and to colleges in July. (Can see early for a fee, if needing for early college course selections.)
- You can request to have a score removed from the report for a fee.
- Can request to have a score removed permanently, for a fee.

Cons of AP Classes

- Significant time commitment
Consider hours in a day and balancing AP classes, extracurricular, jobs, etc.
- Stress from overload when taking multiple AP courses
 - Experience shows us that many students taking more than 3 AP classes struggle to find balance in their lives.



Exam Costs

Exam fee \$94 each

\$142 for AP Seminar and Research

Pay and Order exam by March 9, 2018

Students with Financial Need can get help with the cost.

Can Cancel up to exam time, but will not get full refund.

Should I take AP? Consider...

- Total course load
- Passion for the subject
- Previous success and grades in the subject
- Review Academic and Career Plan

Requirements for Success

- Foundation skills (reading, math, writing, etc. – subject specific)
- Time – having enough available and the ability to manage it
- Motivation and willingness to work hard and work with others
- Possible summer reading
- Academic readiness for college classes (maturity)