

# What It Takes to Take AP

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You're already using the skills it takes to succeed; AP challenges you to take them to entirely new levels. You might think that AP classes are tough, and you might be right. But that doesn't mean that you aren't up to the task. If you are willing to work hard, you'll find that the qualities you use in other parts of your life can help achieve your goals. AP brings the college experience to your high school with the opportunity to earn college credits at thousands of universities. More students are ready for AP than you'd think. Roll up your sleeves and find out what AP can do for you.

## Character

**Curiosity, creativity and commitment are key ingredients for success in AP courses.** These may be qualities you recognize in yourself when you're working at your best, on the things you love best — like teaching yourself about what interests you, finding new ways to solve the problems in your world or proving what you can accomplish with enough practice. Not only will these qualities help you succeed in AP, AP can help you discover and build what you're capable of by challenging you to do more.

## Academic Preparation

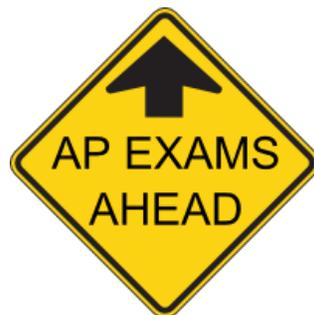
**You don't need to be top of your class to be an AP student, but you'll want to be prepared for the AP course you choose.** Some AP classes have recommended courses you should take first, and all AP courses ask that you come willing to do your best work. To choose an AP course that's right for you, talk to a counselor or teacher about the subjects that interest you and ask about your options for learning the skills to help you succeed.

Have you taken your PSAT/NMSQT?

If you did, it can help you find the courses that are the best fit for you.

## Motivation

**You show your determination when you do the things that matter to you.** Think about when you've learned or accomplished something you're really passionate about. You practice until you get it right. You try harder when it's not easy the first time. The effort pays off and sometimes is even fun, especially when you see how much you can do when you try. That is the kind of commitment that is sought out and rewarded in AP classes, and will help you succeed when you move beyond high school.



# What's an AP class like?

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There's more to AP than you ever imagined. Drive the discussion, discover for yourself how things work and get ready for college.

## Get real. Do what matters, now.

**With AP, you don't have to wait for college to start contributing, because AP is college in a high school setting.** Your school can choose from up to 34 AP courses in subjects that directly connect you to what you want to do now and with your future. They not only give you the knowledge and skills to help you at your college or university, but scoring well on the AP Exam can get you credit and placement there too.

## Dive in headfirst. Get hands-on.

**In AP's immersive courses, you don't just read about things, you get to learn how things really work.** You won't just be memorizing facts and figures that you'll forget moments after the test. In AP you'll tackle concepts and do things that will stick with you long after the class is through. AP teachers' hands-on approach to learning takes you out of the typical classroom and into an experience that will prepare you for college and beyond.

## Speak up. Be heard.

**In AP classes, just like in college, you not only learn by doing, but by sharing and speaking out.** You'll be asked to add your unique perspective because the dialog and debate contributes to the knowledge that's shared by everyone. You'll help drive the class and sharpen your skills by learning to express yourself before you get to college.

## Work side-by-side. Get support.

**With AP, you'll explore new ideas side-by-side with your classmates and AP teachers.** When you get to college, you'll be asked to manage your own time and study habits, while tackling challenging problems and subject areas. This is what you get when you take an AP class, with the added benefit of your AP teacher helping you throughout the journey. AP courses let you to see and feel what college work is like, while receiving the support to help you get there.

## Step up. Surprise yourself.

**In AP classes, you can set bigger goals for yourself, and find yourself doing things you never thought possible.** By doing college-level work in high school, AP students can test themselves and take risks in a familiar setting, gaining confidence and a rewarding experience in addition to college credit and placement.

Please check out the College Board website: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap>