



An Introduction to the Advanced Placement Program®

FUQUAY-VARINA HIGH SCHOOL



What Are Advanced Placement[®] Courses?

Advanced Placement[®]: The Basics

- AP[®] courses are college-level courses offered in high school
- Courses reflect what is taught in top introductory college courses
- Students take **AP Exams** at the end of the course, measuring their mastery of college-level work
- A score of 3 or higher on an AP exam can typically earn students college credit and/or placement into advanced courses in college

FVHS AP[®] Courses

- **Arts:** Art History, Music Theory
- **English:** English Language and Composition (11th), English Literature and Composition (12th)
- **History and Social Sciences:** Human Geography, Psychology, United States Government and Politics, United States History, World History
- **Mathematics:** Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics I
- **World languages:** Spanish Language, German Language

Online AP Courses available through North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS)
– visit [NCVPS.org](https://www.ncvps.org) for more information

AP[®]

AP[®]: The Benefits

AP[®]: The Benefits

- Students learn rigorous college-level content and skills
- Taking AP is valued in the college admission process
- AP courses are interesting and rewarding academic experiences
- Opportunity to earn valuable credit and placement in college



AP[®] from the College Admissions Perspective

- 85% of selective colleges and universities report that a student's AP experience favorably impacts admission decisions*
- Colleges rank grades in college-preparatory courses and strength of curriculum as the two top factors in the admission decision
- AP courses tell college admission officials that students are challenging themselves and preparing for the rigors they'll encounter in their college careers

**Unpublished institutional research, Crux Research Inc., March 2007*

AP[®]: Skills & Advantages that Last a Lifetime

- Taking an AP course helps students build critical thinking skills, confidence, and the essential time management and study skills needed for college success
- Nationally, research shows that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically earn higher grade point averages in college and have higher graduation rates than their non-AP peers*

**2009, The College Board, "The Relationship Between AP Exam Performance and College Outcomes"*

AP[®] Helps Students Graduate on Time & Save Money

Students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely to complete a college degree on time.* Graduating in four years represents a significant savings on the cost of college.

- Only 1 in 4 college students completes a bachelor's degree in 4 years.
- The average cost of college for a single year is \$21,500** for in-state schools (tuition, fees, room/board, misc. expenses).

*College Outcomes Comparisons by AP and Non-AP High School Experiences, *The College Board, 2008*

***The College Board, Trends in College Pricing 2011, Figure 1*

AP[®]

AP[®] Exams

AP[®] Exams

AP Exams are administered by schools worldwide on set dates in May each year.

- Exams are typically 2–3 hours and include:
 - Multiple-choice questions
 - Free-response items such as essays, problem solving, document-based questions and oral response



AP[®] Exam Fees

- As of this year, the state is covering the cost for all AP Exams.
- Students are highly encouraged to take the AP exam.

Credit and Placement Opportunities

Each college and university has its own policies regarding AP[®] credit and placement. The College Board offers information about AP credit at thousands of college and universities at www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy.



The screenshot shows the CollegeBoard website interface for AP Credit Policy Info. The page is titled "AP Credit Policy Info" and "Advanced Placement Program". It features a navigation menu with options like "College Board Tests", "Plan for College", "Find a College", "Apply to College", and "Pay for College". The main content area includes a search bar for "School Name" and a list of subjects (A-Z) to filter results. The page also contains a "Tools" section with links to "AP Credit Policy Info", "AP International Recognition", "SAT Online Registration", and "Services for Students with Disabilities". The footer includes a "Site Map" and "Contact Us" link, along with the TRUSTe logo.

- Search by school name or alphabetically
- Data for each school includes a direct link to that school's Web page detailing AP credit and placement policies
- A statement from the college or university about its AP policy

AP[®]

What is it like to take AP[®]?

AP[®] Myths & Realities

Myth	Reality
AP courses are for students who always get good grades.	AP courses are for any students who are academically prepared and motivated to take college-level courses.
AP courses are too stressful.	It's no secret that AP courses are challenging. But the support you receive from your classmates and teachers can help you manage the work load.
I don't think I will score high enough on the AP Exam to get college credit.	You don't need to score a 5. Many colleges grant credit — and placement as well — based on a 3 or higher on an AP Exam.
Taking AP courses could hurt my GPA.	AP courses are on a 6-point weighted scale for GPA calculation. Taking AP courses shows colleges that you're willing to challenge yourself academically.
I can't take AP because no one has recommended me.	If you think you're ready to take an AP course, then you're ready to advocate for yourself — just talk to a teacher or counselor.

The Key to Success? Grit.





Next Steps: Help Your Child Make the Best Choices

AP[®]: Start the Conversation

Encourage your child to think about:

What AP course is right for me?

Think about what interests you:

- Which courses do you enjoy most in school? In which subjects do you excel?
- What college majors are you considering? What careers excite you?

Ask your counselor or teacher the following questions:

- In which AP courses at our school am I likely to do well?
- Are there other courses that can help me succeed in AP or prepare me for college and careers?

Ask Questions and Get Answers tonight at the Curriculum Fair!

Career and College Promise

Career and College Promise

Take College Courses at a Community College

- Dual Credit – College and High School
- No Tuition Cost
- Student provides transportation and cost of books
- Must be a junior or senior with a 3.0 weighted GPA
- College Transfer or Career & Technical Education Pathways

Career and College Promise

College Transfer Pathway

- General Education courses
- Articulation Agreement with NC State Universities
- Must earn a C or better in the course

Career and College Promise

Career and Technical Education Pathway

Ability to Earn a Certificate Credential while in High School

- Biopharmaceutical
- Business Administration
- Computer Technology
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice *
- Early Childhood Education
- Fire Protection Technology
- Geomatics
- Mechanical Drafting *
- Medical Office Specialist
- Nursing Assistant
- Simulation & Game Dev't

* Offered on the FVHS campus

Career and College Promise

Registration Process:

- Must attend a mandatory Information Session
- March 25 or April 22 at 4:00 - Wake Tech Main Campus

For More Information visit:

<http://www.waketech.edu/career-and-college-promise>

Stop by the Wake Tech table at the Electives Fair in the Cafeteria

AP[®]

Questions and Answers