

# HENRY W. GRADY HIGH SCHOOL

## 2017-18 ADVANCED PLACEMENT GUIDE

The College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) Program gives students the opportunity to take college level courses while in high school and the possibility to earn college credit by taking an AP examination. At Grady we seek to make AP courses available to all well-qualified students with the goal of all college-bound students taking at least one AP course before graduation.

### **A well-qualified AP student must:**

- Read, understand and interpret college-level information,
- Use and apply critical thinking skills to solve problems,
- Apply good written and oral communication skills,
- Demonstrate success in meeting the demands of rigorous coursework,
- Demonstrate good attendance (maximum of 9 absences per semester), and
- Have an interest in attending a college or university.

### **Common Requirements for All AP Courses:**

For each AP course in which a student is enrolled, s/he must

- Fulfill the requirements of the course as outlined in the syllabus,
- Prepare for the AP exam throughout the year,
- Commit to taking the AP exam.
- Maintain an unweighted\* grade of at least 71%, and
- Maintain a high level of academic integrity.

Furthermore:

- 10% of the student's final unweighted\* grade will be based upon the fulfillment of these requirements above.
- Any student who fails to fulfill the above requirements may be dropped from the course, and the AP course will not appear on the student's transcript.
- Students cannot be enrolled in more than three AP classes per school year without being approved for an AP Overload.

### **Class Size**

Atlanta Public Schools and the State of Georgia have set a limit of 26 students per AP class in order to maximize student learning opportunities. Under no circumstances can this limit be increased.

### **Application Process**

Interested students should submit AP Applications online via Grady's website: <http://www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/Domain/3087>. Students who need a paper application should see Mr. Vincent (E207). In order to be approved for an AP course, a student should meet all grade level and prerequisite requirements and meet the minimum requirement in two of the following: (1) unweighted subject GPA, (2) teacher recommendation from most current subject-area instructor, (3) PSAT scores [if applicable], and/or (4) Gifted-identified. Due to space restrictions, all minimally qualified students may not be approved. Approval is tentative and does not guarantee placement in the course. **Online Applications and/or paper applications are due to Mr. Vincent (E207) by Friday, November 18, 2016. You may slide the form under the door if he's not there.**

### **Policy for Appealing AP Placement Decisions**

If you are denied enrollment in an AP course because of any reasons other than not being in the correct grade and/or not having the necessary pre-requisites, you must complete the online appeal in January 2017. All appeals will be finalized before pre-registration. If a student's appeal is successful, s/he will be added to the wait-list for the course, but this does not guarantee the student a position in the class due to the class size restriction discussed above.

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### WHEN WILL WE NEED A TEACHER RECOMMENDATION?

NOTE: PSAT scores are often used as one of four factors to determine AP eligibility. However, some students have not taken the PSAT. RELAX. If you do not have a PSAT score, we will evaluate your application and determine if you –

- 1) Are in the correct grade for the AP course for which you are applying
- 2) Have the prerequisite courses required for the selected AP course(s)
- 3) Have the minimum numeric grades required in the prerequisite courses.

We may send an electronic teacher recommendation to your most recent teacher in the subject area for which you are applying **if the scores in the prerequisite courses are not high enough** OR **if a PSAT score (if applicable) is too low or does not exist**. For example, if you are applying for AP Math and your grades in your math classes are a little low, we will ask your most recent (or current) math teacher to submit an electronic recommendation and rate the following ten (10) areas:

- 1) OVERALL MOTIVATION,
- 2) CONTENT INTEREST,
- 3) REASONING SKILLS,
- 4) PROBLEM SOLVING ABILITIES,
- 5) VERBAL COMMUNICATION,
- 6) WRITTEN COMMUNICATION,
- 7) ACADEMIC MATURITY,
- 8) SOCIAL MATURITY,
- 9) OVERALL WORK ETHIC and
- 10) ABILITY TO SURVIVE AN AP-LEVEL CLASS.

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### Fine Arts

#### ***AP Studio Art***

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Three art courses AND/OR portfolio review

**Course Description:** This course is designed for highly motivated students who are seriously interested in art. AP work involves significantly more commitment than any other art course. This course demands time, diligence, and focus. AP Studio Art is not based on a written exam; students must submit a portfolio for evaluation to the College Board at the end of the school year. Students must choose to submit one of three separate portfolios focusing on drawing, two-dimensional art in other media, or three-dimensional art. Students work in various modes with an emphasis on individual exploration. Students also study advanced art criticism, exhibition practices, and portfolio documentation.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 85 GPA in art
- Recommendation by the art teacher based on the student's motivation and ability to work diligently toward an artistic goal (evidenced by aptitude and self-discipline in previous art courses and a portfolio which exhibits varied approaches)
- Course contract signed by parent and student.

#### ***AP Music Theory***

**Grades:** 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Two years of Orchestra, Adv. Band, or Adv. Chorus + concurrent enrollment in third year

**Course Description:** AP Music Theory conforms to College Board topics for the Advanced Placement Music Theory Examination. It covers terminology and notational skills, writing skills, visual analysis and aural skills, and advanced levels of understanding.

**Additional Requirements:**

- Currently enrolled in Orchestra, Advanced Band, or Advanced Chorus
- Recommendation of current music teacher
- Approval of the AP Music Theory teacher

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## Language Arts

### ***AP English Language & Composition – American Literature (APLANG)***

**Grade:** 11

**Prerequisites:** 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> ELA

**Optional Co-requisite:** AP US History taken concurrently

**Course Description:** AP English Language and Composition engages students in becoming skilled readers of prose written in a variety of rhetorical contexts, and in becoming skilled writers who compose for a variety of purposes. Both their writing and their reading will make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. The primary source material for the course will be American Literature to fulfill the Georgia graduation requirement for 11<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature & Composition. AP US History must be taken concurrently.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 50 or above on PSAT writing & reading subtests
- 85 unweighted average or above in honors language arts and social students (90 if non-honors).

### ***AP English Literature & Composition – British & World Literature***

**Grade:** 12

**Prerequisites:** 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> ELA

**Course Description:** AP Literature & Composition is a preparatory class in World Literature and Composition leading to the administration of the national AP Examination in English, Literature, and Composition at the close of the second semester. Students will study four primary forms of literature – myth, tragedy, comedy, and satire. Students also will review the use of terms for analyzing narratives, poetry, and drama with numerous practice AP essays which emphasize precise use of the terms. Students will be able to analyze imagery, metaphor, and symbols in lyric poems and analyze point of view, characterization, irony, and symbolism in narratives.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 50 or above on the PSAT writing and reading subtests
- 85 or above unweighted average for both semesters in honors ninth, tenth, and eleventh grade English (90 if non-honors).

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## 2017-18 ADVANCED PLACEMENT GUIDE

### World Languages

#### ***AP French Language***

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of French I – III\*

**Course Description:** In AP French Language, students hone their skills in listening, reading, storytelling and writing, using correct French grammar. Students should already have a basic knowledge of the language and culture of French speaking peoples and should have a reasonable proficiency in listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 80 GPA in French I, II, and III\*
- 50 or above on the PSAT writing and reading subtests

\* Students who have spent a semester abroad in a French speaking country will not be required to take French III before applying for AP French.

#### ***AP Spanish Language***

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Successful completion of Spanish I – III\*

**Course Description:** In AP Spanish Language, students hone their skills in listening, reading, storytelling and writing, using correct Spanish grammar. Students should already have a basic knowledge of the language and culture of Spanish speaking peoples and should have a reasonable proficiency in listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 80 GPA in Spanish I, II, and III\*
- 50 or above on the PSAT writing and reading subtests

\*Students who have spent a semester abroad in a Spanish speaking country will not be required to take Spanish III before applying for AP Spanish.

#### ***AP Latin – Vergil***

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Successful Completion of Latin I, II, & III

**Course Description:** AP Latin will consist of advanced readings of Latin poetry in accordance with the College Board recommended syllabi. Student will read and translate selections from Vergil's *Aeneid* and will read the entire poem in English. In addition to accurate and precise translation, the course will focus on critical analysis of the text through free-response essays, scansion and figures of speech, as well as background knowledge of the cultural, social and political history surrounding the *Aeneid*.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 80 GPA in Latin I, II, and III
- 50 or above on the PSAT writing and reading subtests

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### Mathematics

#### ***AP Calculus AB***

**Grades:** 11 or 12

**Prerequisites:** Accelerated Pre-Calculus or Pre-Calculus

**Course Description:** The objectives for this course follow the AP syllabus developed by the College Board for the AP Calculus AB Examination. Topics include limits, continuity, derivatives and various applications, integrals and various applications, and algebraic, transcendental, and trigonometric functions. A Texas Instruments TI-84+ graphing calculator or equivalent is required for this course.

**Additional Requirements**

- 85 GPA in Accelerated Pre-Calculus or Pre-Calculus
- 50 or above on the PSAT math and reading subtests

#### ***AP Calculus BC***

**Grades:** 11 or 12

**Prerequisites:** AP Calculus AB

**Course Description:** A rigorous course which follows the standards set forth by the College Board for Advanced Placement Calculus BC. This course may be taken either concurrently with Calculus AB or in the following year. The course permits the students to further examine and explore properties of functions and graphs; limits and continuity; differential calculus; and integral calculus. Additional topics include parametric equations, polar curves, vectors, and infinite sequences and series. TI-84+ graphing calculators are required.

**Additional Requirements**

- 90 GPA AP Calculus AB
- 55 or above on the PSAT math subtest and 50 on the PSAT reading subtest

#### ***AP Statistics***

**Grades:** 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Accelerated Geometry B/Adv. Algebra or Math III or Advanced Algebra

**Course Description:** The objectives for this course follow the AP syllabus developed by the College Board for the AP Statistics Examination. Topics include organizing data and looking for patterns, producing data, probability, and statistical inference. Students will be expected to write numerous papers using the tools of statistical inference. A Texas Instrument TI-83+ graphing calculator or equivalent is recommended for this course.

**Additional Requirements**

- 85 GPA in Accelerated Geometry B/Adv. Algebra or Math III or Advanced Algebra
- 50 or above on the PSAT math, reading and writing subtests

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### Science

#### ***AP Physics 1***

**Grade:** 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Biology, Chemistry; Algebra I, Geometry

**Course Description:** AP Physics 1 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course (equivalent to a first-semester college course in algebra-based physics) that explores topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. Students explore principles of Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. The course is based on six Big Ideas, which encompass core scientific principles, theories, and processes that cut across traditional boundaries and provide a broad way of thinking about the physical world. The following are Big Ideas:

- Objects and systems have properties such as mass and charge. Systems may have internal structure.
- Fields existing in space can be used to explain interactions.
- The interactions of an object with other objects can be described by forces.
- Interactions between systems can result in changes in those systems.
- Changes that occur as a result of interactions are constrained by conservation laws.
- Waves can transfer energy and momentum from one location to another without the permanent transfer of mass and serve as a mathematical model for the description of other phenomena.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 85 in Honors Science/Accel. Math/Adv. Alg.
- 90 in non-Honors/Adv. Level Science and Math
- 50 or above on PSAT-reading score and 50 or above on PSAT-math score

#### ***AP Physics 2***

**Grade:** 12

**Prerequisites:** Biology, Chemistry, Physics 1; Algebra I, Geometry & Pre-Calculus

**Course Description:** AP Physics 2 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course that explores topics such as fluid statics and dynamics; thermodynamics with kinetic theory; PV diagrams and probability; electrostatics; electrical circuits with capacitors; magnetic fields; electromagnetism; physical and geometric optics; and quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics. Through inquiry-based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills. Students explore principles of fluids, thermodynamics, electricity, magnetism, optics, and topics in modern physics. The course is based on seven Big Ideas, which encompass core scientific principles, theories, and processes that cut across traditional boundaries and provide a broad way of thinking about the physical world. The following are Big Ideas:

- Objects and systems have properties such as mass and charge. Systems may have internal structure.
- Fields existing in space can be used to explain interactions.
- The interactions of an object with other objects can be described by forces.
- Interactions between systems can result in changes in those systems.
- Changes that occur as a result of interactions are constrained by conservation laws.
- Waves can transfer energy and momentum from one location to another without the permanent transfer of mass and serve as a mathematical model for the description of other phenomena.
- The mathematics of probability can be used to describe the behavior of complex systems and to interpret the behavior of quantum mechanical systems.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 85 in Honors/AP Science/Accel. Math/Adv. Alg.
- 90 in non-H/Adv level science and math courses
- 50 or above on PSAT-reading score and 50 or above on PSAT-math score

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## 2017-18 ADVANCED PLACEMENT GUIDE

### Science, *continued*

#### **AP Biology**

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Biology, Chemistry; Advanced Algebra or Accelerated Geo/Adv Algebra

**(May need to take Physical Science or Physics concurrently to meet graduation requirements)**

**Course Description:** The objectives for this course follow the AP syllabus developed by the College Board for the AP Biology Examination. Topics covered are biological chemistry, cells, energy transformations, molecular genetics, heredity, evolution, taxonomy and systematics, monera, protista, fungi, plants, animals, and ecology.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 85 GPA in science
- 50 or above on PSAT-reading score and 50 or above on PSAT-math score

#### **AP Chemistry**

**Grade:** 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Biology, Chemistry, Geometry

**Course Description:** The objectives for this course follow the AP syllabus developed by the College Board for the AP Chemistry Examination. Topics covered are atomic theory and structure, chemical bonding, nuclear chemistry, gases, liquids, solids, solutions, types of reactions, stoichiometry, equilibrium, kinetics, and thermodynamics.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 90 GPA in science
- 50 or above on PSAT-reading score and 50 or above on PSAT-math score
- Department and/or teacher recommendation

#### **AP Environmental Science**

**Grade:** 12

**Prerequisites:** Physics/Physical Science, Chemistry, Biology, & Advanced Algebra or Accelerated Geo/Adv Algebra

**Course Description:** AP Environmental Science is the equivalent of a one semester, introductory college course in environmental science. The goal of the course is to provide students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world, to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and human-made, to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. Environmental science is interdisciplinary; it embraces a wide variety of topics from different areas of study including biology, chemistry, earth science, social sciences, and politics. There is a strong laboratory and field study component to this course that requires students to participate in some activities outside of the normal classroom hours. Experiences both in the laboratory and in the field provide students with unique opportunities to explore how classroom learned concepts apply to the "real world".

**Additional Requirements:**

- 85 GPA in science
- 50 or above on PSAT-reading score and 50 or above on PSAT-math score



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### ***AP Computer Science Principles***

**Grades:** 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Analytic Geometry

**Course Description:** AP Computer Science Principles introduces students to the foundational concepts of computer science and challenges them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. With a unique focus on creative problem solving and real-world applications, AP Computer Science Principles prepares students for college and career. AP Computer Science Principles offers a multidisciplinary approach to teaching the underlying principles of computation. The course will introduce students to the creative aspects of programming, abstractions, algorithms, large data sets, the Internet, cybersecurity concerns, and computing impacts. AP Computer Science Principles will give students the opportunity to use technology to address real-world problems and build relevant solutions. Together, these aspects of the course make up a rigorous and rich curriculum that aims to broaden participation in computer science.

#### **Additional Requirements**

- 80 GPA in Analytic Geometry
- 50 or above on the PSAT math and reading subtests

### ***AP Computer Science A***

**Grades:** 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Analytic Geometry

**Course Description:** The *Computer Science A* course provides a solid foundation for computer-related careers: computer programming, mathematics, engineering, business, and the natural sciences. This course was designed for students with little or no background in computer programming. The topics studied include sequence, repetition, conditions, functions, one- and two-dimensional arrays, recursion, and an object-based approach to classes. Currently, the programming language used on the exam is Java.

#### **Additional Requirements**

- 80 GPA in Analytic Geometry
- 50 or above on the PSAT math and reading subtests

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### Social Studies

#### ***AP U.S. History (APUSH)***

**Grade:** 11

**Prerequisites:** Civics, World Geography, World History

**Optional Co-requisite:** AP English Language & Composition

**Course Description:** AP U.S. History is designed to provide students with the factual knowledge and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the problems and issues central to our American history and culture. Students will learn to interpret and evaluate the relative significance of primary and secondary source materials, and to present evidence and conclusions clearly and persuasively in essay format required for the AP U.S. History Examination. The course material covers a broad range of topics including Colonial America, Revolutionary America, Federalism, Nationalism and Jacksonian Democracy, Expansion and Sectionalism, the Civil War and Reconstruction, Industrial America, the Progressive Era, World War I, the Depression Era, World War II, the Cold War, and Modern American Society.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 50 or above on PSAT writing & reading subtests
- 85 or above in 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade in honors English (90 in non-honors)
- 85 or above in honors Civics, World Geography, and World History (90 in non-honors)

#### ***AP World History***

**Grade:** 10

**Prerequisites:** AP Human Geography and/or Civics and World Geography

**Course Description:** Although this course is for sophomores, it should be noted that it is a college-level course that requires a great deal of self-directed work. The course conforms to College Board guidelines for the AP World History Examination and covers the political, cultural, economic, and social development of civilizations. Students will study the development of ancient civilizations, the emergence of nations through trade/communication, intellectual development, scientific and technological development, emergence of nation states, nations in conflict, & the emerging interdependence of nations.

**Additional Requirements:**

- Rising tenth grader must have a 80 or above in honors Civics or World Geography (85 in non-honors)
- 90 or above in honors English (95 in non-honors)

#### ***AP Gov. & Politics – Comparative***

**Grades:** 11 or 12

**Prerequisites:** Civics, World Geography, World History

**Course Description:** Comparative Government and Politics introduces students to fundamental concepts used by political scientists to study the processes and outcomes of politics in a variety of country settings. The course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, to show available institutional alternatives, to explain differences in processes and policy outcomes, and to communicate to students the importance of global political and economic changes. The six nations that form the core of this course are China, Great Britain, Mexico, Nigeria, Iran and Russia. Each of these nations, for different reasons, has strategic importance to the United States.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 50 or above on PSAT writing & reading subtests
- 85 or above in ninth and tenth grade English
- 85 or above in American Government, Geography, and World History (and U.S. History if applicable)

#### ***AP Government and Politics – U.S.***

**Grades:** 11 or 12

**Prerequisites:** Civics, World Geography, World History

**Course Description:** U.S. Government and Politics includes both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and the analysis of specific examples. It also requires familiarity with various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute U.S. politics. Six broad topics form the structure of this course: Constitutional underpinnings of U.S. government; Political beliefs and behaviors; Political parties, interest groups, and mass media; Institutions of national government; Public policy; and Civil rights and civil liberties.

\* All AP U.S. Government students will take the AP course in the fall (1/2 credit), and

\*\*All AP U.S. Government students will be required to take *U.S. and the Law* (1/2 credit) as a continuation in the spring of the same school year.

- 50 or above on PSAT writing & reading subtests
- 85 or above in ninth and tenth grade English
- 85 or above in American Government, Geography, and World History (and U.S. History if applicable)

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## 2017-18 ADVANCED PLACEMENT GUIDE

### **Social Studies**, continued

#### ***AP Human Geography***

**Grade:** 9

The purpose of the AP course in Human Geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice.

The particular topics studied in an AP Human Geography course should be judged in light of the following five college-level goals that build on the National Geography Standards developed in 1994 and revised in 2012. On successful completion of the course, the student should be able to:

1. Interpret maps and analyze geospatial data.  
Geography is concerned with the ways in which patterns on Earth's surface reflect and influence physical and human processes. As such, maps and geographic information systems (GIS) are fundamental to the discipline, and learning to use and think about them is critical to geographical literacy. The goal is achieved when students learn to use maps and geospatial data to pose and solve problems, and when they learn to think critically about what is revealed and what is hidden in different maps and GIS applications.
2. Understand and explain the implications of associations and networks among phenomena in places.  
Geography looks at the world from a spatial perspective, seeking to understand the changing spatial organization and material character of Earth's surface. One of the critical advantages of a spatial perspective is the attention it focuses on how phenomena are related to one another in particular places. Students should thus learn not just to recognize and interpret patterns but to assess the nature and significance of the relationships among phenomena that occur in the same place, and to understand how cultural values, political regulations, and economic constraints work together to create particular landscapes.
3. Recognize and interpret the relationships among patterns and processes at different scales of analysis.  
Geographical analysis requires a sensitivity to scale, not just as a spatial category but as a framework for understanding how events and processes at different scales influence one another. Thus students should understand that the phenomena they are studying at one scale (e.g., local) may well be influenced by processes and developments at other scales (e.g., global,

regional, national, state or provincial). They should then look at processes operating at multiple scales when seeking explanations of geographic patterns and arrangements.

4. Define regions and evaluate the regionalization process.  
Geography is concerned not simply with describing patterns but with analyzing how they came about and what they mean. Students should see regions as objects of analysis and exploration and move beyond simply locating and describing regions to considering how and why they come into being and what they reveal about the changing character of the world in which we live.

5. Characterize and analyze changing interconnections among places.

At the heart of a geographical perspective is a concern with the ways in which events and processes operating in one place can influence those operating at other places. Thus students should view places and patterns not in isolation but in terms of their spatial and functional relationship with other places and patterns. Moreover they should strive to be aware that those relationships are constantly changing, and they should understand how and why change occurs.

#### **Additional Requirement:**

- 85 in prerequisite ELA and Social Studies

#### ***AP Economics***

**Grades:** 10, 11, 12

**Prerequisites:** Accelerated Geometry B/Adv. Algebra or Advanced Algebra (*Pre-Calculus or AMDM - concurrent is ok*)

**Terms:** Microeconomics – Fall; Macroeconomics – Spring

**Course Description:** The course is divided into two parts, each with its own AP examination. In the fall, students study microeconomics in order to gain a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the function of individual decision makers, both consumers and producers, within the larger economic system. In the spring, students study macroeconomics. Macroeconomics covers measurement of economic performance and national income, and price determination and growth. Students will examine the effect of government budget deficits, consider the issues involved in determining the burden of the national debt, and explore the relationships between deficits, interest rates, and inflation.

#### **Additional Requirements:**

- 85 in prerequisite courses
- 50 or above on all PSAT subtests

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### ***AP European History***

**Grade:** 12

**Prerequisites:** AP World History, AP U.S. History

**Course Description:** The study of European history since 1450 introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a fundamental role in shaping the world in which they live. Without this knowledge, we would lack the context for understanding the development of contemporary institutions, the role of continuity and change in present-day society and politics, and the evolution of current forms of artistic expression and intellectual discourse. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of AP European History are to develop (a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, (b) an ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and (c) an ability to express historical understanding in writing.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 50 or above in PSAT reading and writing subtests

### ***AP Psychology***

**Grades:** 11, 12

**Prerequisite:** Teacher Recommendation from most current history teacher

**Course Description:** This course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles, and phenomena associated with each of the major sub-fields with psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

**Additional Requirements:**

- 50 or above on PSAT writing & reading subtests

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## AP CAPSTONE COURSES

### Grades: 10, 11

AP Capstone is an innovative program that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges.

Developed at the request of College Board Higher Education membership, AP Capstone is built on the foundation of two new AP courses – AP Seminar and AP Research – and is designed to complement and enhance the in-depth, discipline-specific study provided through other AP courses. The AP Capstone curriculum fosters inquiry, research, collaboration, and writing skills through the intensive investigation of topics from multiple perspectives. The AP Capstone program is composed of:

**AP Seminar:** AP Seminar provides sustained practice of investigating issues from multiple perspectives and cultivates student writing abilities so they can craft, communicate, and defend evidence-based arguments. Students are empowered to collect and analyze information with accuracy and precision and are assessed through a team project and presentation, an individual written essay and presentation, and a written exam.

**AP Research:** In AP Research, students develop the skills and discipline necessary to conduct independent research to produce and defend a scholarly academic thesis. This second course in the AP Capstone experience allows students to explore deeply an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest and through this inquiry, students design, plan, and conduct a year-long mentored, research-based investigation. The course culminates in an academic thesis paper of approximately 5,000 words and a presentation, performance, or exhibition with an oral defense.

### ***AP courses of the student's own choosing.***

Students typically take AP Seminar in the 10th or 11th grade, followed by AP Research. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. This signifies their outstanding academic achievement and attainment of college-level academic and research skills.

Alternatively, students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™ signifying their attainment of college-level academic and research skills.

### Additional Requirements:

- overall high school GPA of 85 or higher if taking any honors ELA, SCI, Social Studies and Math courses OR a GPA of 90 or higher if taking all regular ELA, SCI, Social Studies and Math courses.
- The AP Committee will read the paragraph you wrote in your application, and the score should be at least an 85 on a 100-point scale. They will evaluate based on grammar, mechanics, idea development, etc.