An Introduction to the Advanced Placement Program®

Savannah Arts Academy
Welcome

Savannah Arts Academy is committed to every student’s success.

We believe access to rigorous course work such as Advanced Placement® (AP®) plays an important role in that success.
What We’ll Cover

• What are Advanced Placement® Courses?
• The Benefits
• AP® Exams
• What Is It Like to Take AP?
• Next Steps: Help Your Child Make the Best Choices
• Q & A
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
Our AP® Courses

- **Arts:** Art History, Music Theory, Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio, Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio, Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio
- **English:** English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition
- **History and Social Sciences:** European History, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, United States Government and Politics, United States History, World History
- **Mathematics and Computer Science:** Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science A, Statistics
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics 1: Algebra-based
- **World languages:** Chinese Language and Culture, French Language and Culture, German Language and Culture, Italian Language and Culture, Japanese Language and Culture, Latin, Spanish Language and Culture, Spanish Literature and Culture
**AP® at Savannah Arts Academy**

- Number of exams taken in 2017 was 1020

- **Savannah Arts Academy Total Scholars : 163; Average Score: 3.70**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>AP Scholar</th>
<th>AP Scholar with honor</th>
<th>AP Scholar with distinction</th>
<th>National AP Scholar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Scholars</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Score</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>4.08</td>
<td>4.45</td>
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- AP Scholars demonstrate superior college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. They receive an award certificate, and this achievement is acknowledged on any AP score report that is sent to colleges the following fall.

- This school year, 2018, our students are planning on taking 1004 exams in May.
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
• 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
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.*

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 $23,410** 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 2014, Figure 1
AP® Expands Students’ Options

When students earn college credit through AP Exams, their options and opportunities expand:

• Move to upper-level college courses sooner
• Pursue a double major
• Gain time to study and travel abroad
AP®: A More Engaging Learning Experience

AP courses challenge students to work and participate at a higher level:

- Opportunities to explore topics in depth
- More time in and out of the classroom required to complete assignments and projects
- High expectations for critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evidence, multiple perspectives, and clear written and verbal communications
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
The exam fee for 2018 is $94 per exam.

Assistance is available for eligible students with financial need:
  • The College Board offers a $25 fee reduction per exam for eligible students with financial need.
  • AP exams are paid for by the district - Savannah Chatham County Public Schools
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](http://www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy).

- 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
What is it like to take AP®?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Myth</th>
<th>Reality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AP courses are for students who always get good grades.</td>
<td>AP courses are for any students who are academically prepared and motivated to take college-level courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP courses are too stressful.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t think I will score high enough on the AP Exam to get college credit.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taking AP courses could hurt my GPA.</td>
<td><em>Describe any extra weighting for AP course grades that your school may offer.</em> Taking AP courses shows colleges that you’re willing to challenge yourself academically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can’t take AP because no one has recommended me.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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</table>
Student ambassadors will answer a few questions and give insight on their experiences taking various AP courses.
Students & Parents ... In Their Own Words

<Note: This is an optional section for your presentation. You can include one or more videos from The College Board YouTube Channel at www.youtube.com/advancedplacement featuring students and teachers talking about AP® choices and experiences.>>

An AP teacher talks about her high expectations for her students

Karl describes AP classes as a glimpse into what college is like

AP Program: Creativity Makes A Mark
College Admissions Officials In Their Own Words

<Note: This is another optional slide for your presentation. The video referenced here features college admission officers and students talking about the impact of AP on the college experience.>

AP Program: The impact of AP credit and placement on the college experience
Next Steps: Help Your Child Make the Best Choices
Help your child prepare to talk to a teacher or counselor about AP. Here are some questions to encourage your child to think about:

**What AP course is right for me?**
Before you talk to a teacher or counselor, 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?

**What steps do I need to take?**
- What is our school’s enrollment deadline?
- May I speak with a student who has taken an AP course?
- Are there study groups or people who can offer help if I need it?
- What can I do next to help me prepare for AP?
AP®: Resources Worth Exploring for Students and Families

- AP information: apstudent.collegeboard.org
- College and Career Planning: bigfuture.org
- Personalized feedback, practice and college planning based on your PSAT/NMSQT® results: My College QuickStart™
  www.collegeboard.org/quickstart
- AP credit policy information from colleges and universities: www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy
Explore AP®: Take the Next Step

Why take AP®?

- Challenge myself
- Earn college credit
- Broaden my college and career choices
Questions and Answers