

Father Michael McCaffery

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



Advanced Placement (AP)

REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION GUIDE

2025 - 2026

This document provides information for:
Grade 9 & 10 Prospective AP Students

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About Advanced Placement

Established in 1955, The College Board created the Advanced Placement program as a cooperative endeavour between high schools, colleges, and universities. The program enables willing and academically prepared students to develop university-level knowledge and skills while still in high school developing the skills essential for academic success beyond McCaffery.

AP is recognized at nearly all colleges and universities in Canada and the United States – and at many other institutions in more than 100 countries. These courses are highly valued in admissions applications and students who achieve an AP exam score of 3, 4, or 5 may qualify for transfer credit or advanced standing. Through our AP program, students can choose to take a single AP course or multiple courses to create an experience that fits their individual academic goals.

Who should take Advanced Placement (AP)?

Students with a strong academic background, motivation to excel, and an interest in advanced coursework are encouraged to enroll in the AP program.

When deciding which courses one should pursue, the Advanced Placement College Board suggests that students start with their interests – ask yourself, what subjects do you enjoy? From there, they encourage students to explore courses that they want to learn more about and finally to choose classes that will challenge them to do their best work.

Remember, you do not need to be top of your class to be an AP student, but you will want to be prepared for the AP course you choose.

- It is recommended that students achieve a minimum of 75% in the prerequisite courses.



Recognition and Benefits

Advanced Placement courses are enriched classes that help ambitious students achieve their academic goals by exploring subject areas beyond the Alberta curriculum. Students who participate in Advance Placement courses leave high school with many of the skills necessary to be successful in post secondary education.

Skill Development

- Build advanced academic skills, such as critical thinking, problem-solving, time management, effective communication and resilience.

University/College Credit

- Students who achieve a minimum grade in AP courses may earn 100 level credits for advanced coursework completed in high school
- Recognized by universities across Canada, the U.S., and worldwide.
- Exclusive Scholarship Opportunities: Graduating AP students may be eligible for special AP scholarships, recognizing their academic achievements and commitment to rigorous studies.

University Preparation

- Experience the rigor of post secondary-level coursework while still in high school.
- When attending post secondary institutions, AP students are not as overwhelmed by workload and have experience with high stakes exams giving AP students a competitive edge.

The Alberta (AP) Advantage

No Academic Penalty for Enrichment:

- Students benefit from the enriched content of Advanced Placement (AP) courses without worrying about their Alberta marks being negatively affected. Alberta Education marks are solely based on Alberta Curriculum assessments for AP courses.

Low-Risk AP Exams:

- When students take AP exam-level courses, they write AP Exams. These exams are low-risk because the results do not impact the final grades listed on the Alberta transcript. In fact, students with a stronger performance in their AP courses can use these higher grades for post-secondary admissions.

Advanced Placement Courses Offered

AP Seminar	AP Biology
AP English Literature and Composition	AP Chemistry
AP Math (Calculus)	AP Psychology

COURSE PROGRESSIONS

*A course mark of 75% or higher is required when selecting AP programming.

AP Seminar

- Uses an interdisciplinary approach to develop your analytic and inquiry skills by exploring various topics and issues. Students will explore issues from multiple perspectives, strengthening the critical thinking, research, collaboration, time management, and presentation skills students need for college-level work.

AP English



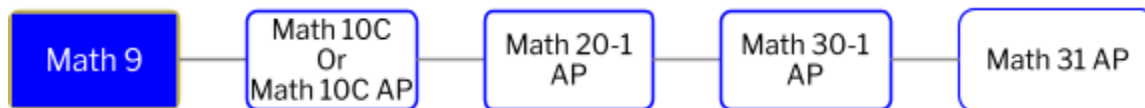
AP Biology



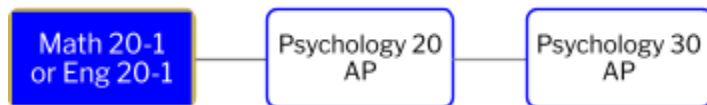
AP Chemistry



AP Math



AP Psychology



*Math 20-1 or English 20-1 are corequisite courses for Psychology 20 AP



Frequently Asked Questions

What subjects are offered in the AP Program?

- The AP Program offers courses in a wide variety of subjects, including sciences, mathematics, languages, social sciences, and arts. Availability may vary depending on the school.

Will AP courses negatively affect my grades?

- AP courses include additional content, but grades are typically based on provincial or school assessments. In Alberta, for instance, only marks from Alberta Curriculum assessments are included on the transcript.

Do AP Exams affect my high school transcript?

- No, AP Exam scores are separate and do not appear on high school transcripts. However, students may report their scores to post-secondary institutions to earn credit or advanced standing.

What is the format of an AP Exam?

- AP Exams typically include multiple-choice and free-response sections, designed to assess a student's knowledge, analytical skills, and ability to apply concepts.

What happens if I don't do well on an AP Exam?

- AP Exams are low-risk. Poor performance on an AP Exam does not affect your high school grades or transcript, and you can still benefit from the enriched learning experience.

Can AP courses help me get into university?

- Yes, AP courses demonstrate academic rigor and a willingness to challenge oneself, which are qualities universities value in applicants.

Can I earn university credits with AP courses?

- Yes, many universities award first-year credits for AP courses if you achieve a qualifying exam score (typically 3, 4, or 5, depending on the institution).

How can I prepare for an AP course or exam?

- Students can prepare by staying organized, completing all assigned coursework, utilizing AP study materials, and practicing past exam questions available on the College Board's website.

How do I send my AP Exam scores to universities?

- AP scores can be sent directly to universities through the College Board. You can choose to send scores during registration or after receiving your results.

*For more information about Advanced Placement please visit <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/>

Questions??

For Further AP Information please contact McCaffery or visit the AP website
(<https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/>)

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