

## Preparing to Take an Advanced Placement® Course

Congratulations on having decided to take an Advanced Placement (AP) course this upcoming school year! AP courses employ a rigorous and intense college-level curriculum that pushes students to their intellectual limits. To help prepare you for this experience, this overview will familiarize you with AP courses and all that they can do to help you become a stronger student!

You may be wondering whether you have made the right decision to take an AP class and if you are ready to accept the additional challenge of a college-level course. See what some current college students have to say about their experience of taking AP courses by watching some [videos of their experiences](#).

### **Success in AP Courses and the Growth Mindset**

To be successful in an AP course you need to not only work hard, but you also need to have the correct mindset. It has been scientifically proven that having a growth mindset—believing you can grow your intelligence—is crucial to success. Visit the [You Can Learn Anything](#) page at Khan Academy® to learn more about the growth mindset and how you can kick-start your learning.

### **Curiosity**

Growth is achieved through curiosity, the driving force behind AP success. In this spirit of intellectual exploration, the following overview will attempt to answer some of the questions you may have about AP courses and will provide you with the resources you will need to be successful. AP courses can be challenging experiences, but by drawing upon the following resources, you will find yourself better prepared for the challenges that await you.

### **What Is “The AP Experience”?**

Taking an AP course is an experience unlike any other. Visit the [What is AP?](#) page at the AP Students website to read more about what you may get out of taking an AP course.

### **What Are the Rewards of AP Instruction?**

Taking an AP course is not only advantageous for the experience, but also because it sets you up for future success. Visit the [Benefits of AP](#) page to view the numerous incentives of taking an AP course.



### **Career Connections**

One of the greatest benefits of taking an AP course is the ability to choose the subject you wish to specialize in. Visit the [Connect AP to Majors and Careers](#) page on the AP Students website to explore the alignment between various AP courses and careers.

### **Do I Have What It Takes?**

AP courses are challenging, and it is important to make sure you are prepared for the rigors of the course you are about to take. Visit the [Choosing Your AP Courses](#) page at the AP Students website to learn about what it takes to be successful in an AP course.

### **Your Course**

While each AP course is rigorous and challenging, it is important to know where to find information specific to your AP course(s). Visit the [AP Courses and Exams](#) page at the AP Students website to select the course you wish to explore in greater detail. From this page, you may access information about future careers and college majors related to the subject, along with a course overview and exam description of your course.

### **The AP Exam**

At the conclusion of every AP course, students are expected to take an AP exam. This exam is a rigorous test of your abilities and gives you a chance to earn college credit for your subject. Visit the [AP Exams Overview](#) page at the AP Students website to learn more about AP Exams.

### **Preparing for the AP Exam**

To be successful on the AP exam, you must prepare accordingly. Visit the [Practice for Exams](#) page at the AP Students website to learn more about how to prepare for the AP exam.