

# ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

The Advanced Placement Program is a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. AP, which was developed by the U.S. College Board in 1955, offers students the opportunity to take college level courses while still in high school. Students earning a score of 3 or better on their AP exam may earn either university or advanced placement credit. **Through the AP Seminar program, students may begin taking AP classes in grade 10.**

Students are provided with an enriched program that mirrors post-secondary curricula and expectations. Students will learn what college level courses are like and develop the skills and strategies necessary to be successful in college or university. *"College entrance exams reveal that young people who take challenging classes, such as Advanced Placement courses perform better than their peers regardless of their family or financial background."* – Rod Paige, U.S. Secretary of Education

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Why take AP?

AP Programs are enriched classes for students who love the subject area or enjoy learning in general. AP classes also teach students skills that help them become successful post-secondary students. AP classes are enriched in a variety of ways, including different material, activities, projects, and opportunities.

### What is AP Seminar?

AP Seminar is a skill-building AP program that provides students with opportunities to develop the strategies, confidence and communication needed to be successful in high-level academic programs. It is available to students beginning in grade 10.

### How many colleges and universities accept AP grades?

More than 90 percent of the colleges and universities in the United States and Canada, as well as colleges and universities in 21 other countries, have a policy granting incoming students credit, placement, or both, for qualifying AP Exam grades. Students with a "qualifying grade" (3+) can earn course credit at thousands of colleges and universities worldwide. The best source of specific and up-to-date information about an individual institution's policy on its calendar or website.

### Can only "A" students take AP classes?

No, all students are welcome to apply for an AP class. The most successful students are hardworking, organized, mature, motivated, and positive about their learning experience. Students should expect a fast passed, highly rigorous experience in their chosen class.

### Are there exams for AP Courses?

Yes, each AP course has an optional exam or portfolio submission in May. It is recommended that all students sit for the exam or submit their portfolio. Examination costs are approximately \$135.00 CAD per course/exam and \$200.00 CAD for the AP Seminar Exam. Exam fees are non-refundable.



# WHAT AP OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

GW Graham Secondary's AP offering continues to expand. Here is what is available for 2024 – 2025:

GW Graham Secondary 2024 – 2025 AP Programs	
Department/Program	More Information on
<b>English</b>	
AP Language and Composition 12 (AEN--12)	Page: 30
AP Literature and Composition 12 (AELC-12)	Page: 31
<b>Science</b>	
AP Chemistry 12 (ACHE-12)	Page: 52
AP Biology 12 (ABIO-12)	Page: 51
<b>Fine Arts</b>	
AP 2-D Art and Design 12 (A2DP-12)	Page: 64
AP 3-D Art and Design 12 (A3DP-12)	Page: 64
AP Studio Art: Drawing (ASAD-12)	Page: 64
<b>Social Studies</b>	
AP World History: Modern (AWH--12)	Page: 57
<b>Mathematics</b>	
AP Calculus AB (ACAL-12)	Page: 42
<b>AP Capstone</b>	
AP Seminar (available to students in grade 10-12) (APCS-11)	See below

Students interested in AP programming should talk to their counsellor or current subject teacher.

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General information on AP Courses is also available at: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

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## AP CAPSTONE SEMINAR 11 (APCS-11)

Prerequisite: None

AP Seminar, **open to students in grades 10 – 12**, immerses learners in cross-curricular studies, exploring the intricacies of academic and real-world topics. Students will develop and refine academic skills through the analysis of diverse perspectives, engaging with non-fiction, literary, scholarly, persuasive, and philosophical texts, as well as speeches, broadcasts, personal accounts, and artistic works.

Guided by an inquiry framework, students master the art of gathering and synthesizing information from various sources. This synthesis is applied in crafting compelling written essays and designing articulate oral and visual presentations, both independently and collaboratively. Classroom discussions are an essential part of this course and serve as a means of assessing student learning.

As part of the AP Capstone program, AP Seminar empowers students to develop critical and creative thinking skills while forging connections between complex issues and their lives. Emphasizing diverse viewpoints, students navigate a deliberate process of inquiry and investigation, synthesizing information from primary and secondary sources. The rich tapestry of academic sources provides a profound appreciation for complex issues, enabling students to analyze evidence and consider a spectrum of options, solutions, or resolutions to real-world and academic challenges.

Note: this is a Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies Course. There is an **exam fee of \$200.00 CAD** (non-refundable)