



AP[®] Initiatives Strengthen Student Readiness. Expand with Impact.

Support for Schools and Districts



Expand with Impact

AP Seminar

Create new on-ramps for students taking additional AP courses in high school.

Frequently Asked Questions

1

What's the right AP course to offer students in grade 10?

We see the benefits AP has on school culture, so we'd like to get more students to take AP classes.

2

Which AP course gets students ready for the AP English courses?

We need an AP course that strengthens the pipeline of students ready for the AP English courses.

3

Is there a starter AP course to teach academic skills?

We want more students to succeed in AP and so we're looking for a class to teach them academic skills.

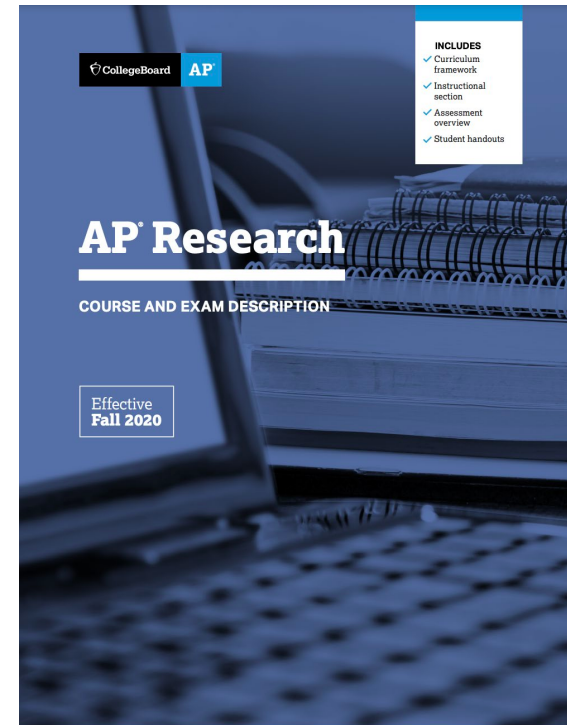
AP Seminar

The first course in the two-course AP Capstone Diploma™ Program



Year 1

EVALUATE
academic
conversations
through
secondary
research



Year 2

CONTRIBUTE TO
academic
conversations
through
primary
research

Students in AP Seminar



Choose topics
that interest
them



Develop their
critical thinking
skills



Work
collaboratively
with their peers



Investigate real-
world issues



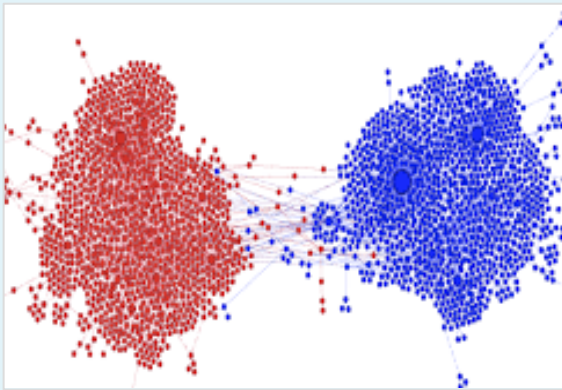
Build their self-
confidence



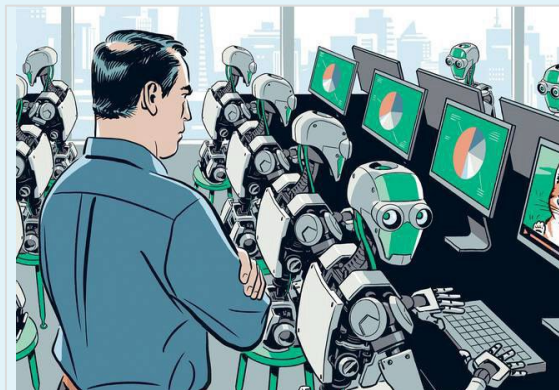
Present their
ideas and
perspectives

Students Choose Their Topics

- AP Seminar students enjoy the freedom to choose the topics they want to research.
- Students deliver their arguments through written reports and multimedia presentations.



Social Media and
Confirmation Bias



Automation and
Employment



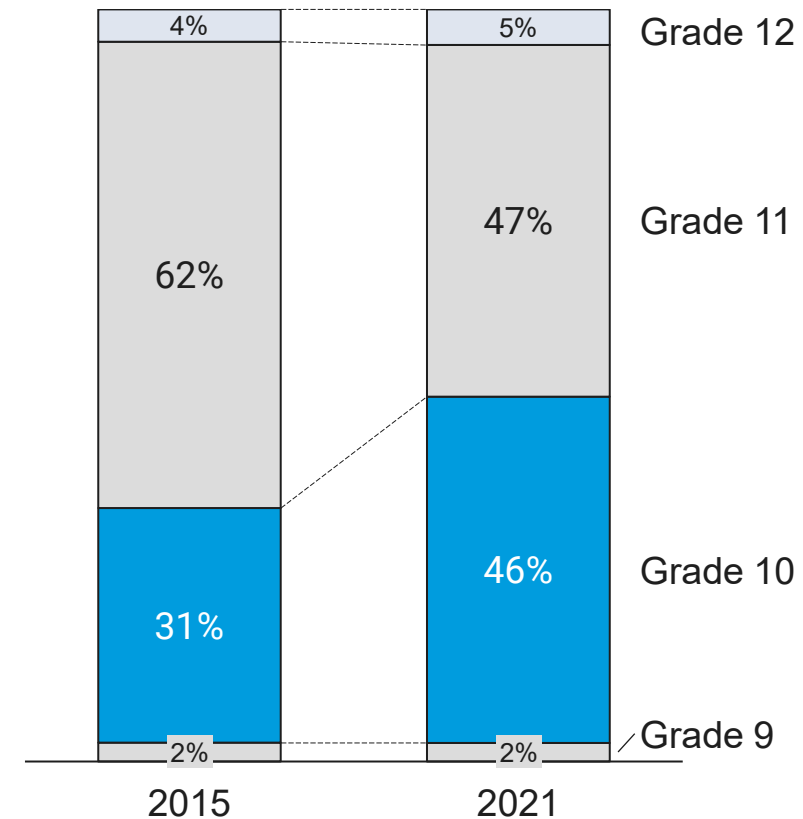
Gendered Toys

Check out more samples of student work on [AP Central](#).

Schools Shift AP Seminar to Grade 10

- Schools are recognizing that AP Seminar helps students not only to stand out for the AP Capstone awards but also to learn transferable skills measured on AP Exams taken in subsequent years.
- Today, the number of students taking AP Seminar in grade 10 is nearly identical to the number of students taking the course in grade 11.

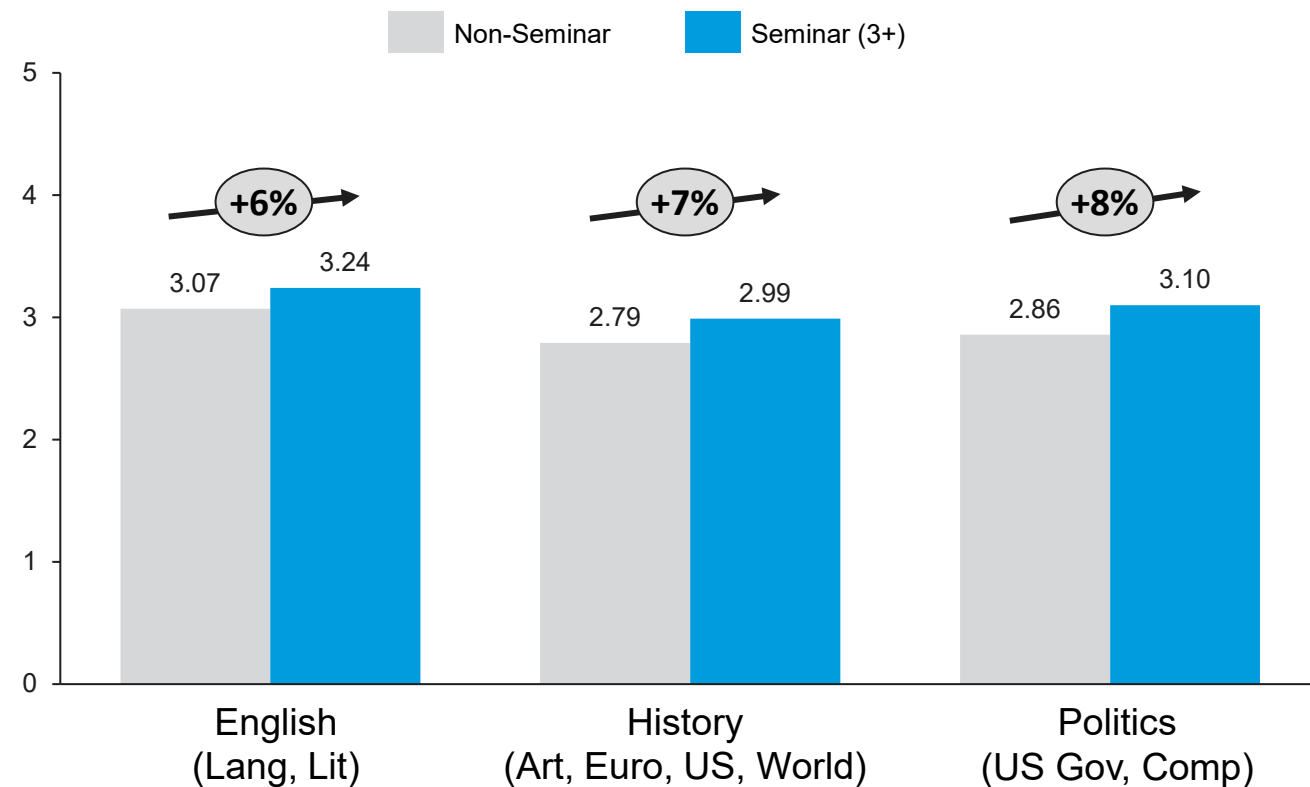
AP Seminar Exams, by Grade Level



High School Benefit: Increased Performance in AP

- The skills taught in AP Seminar enhance other AP experiences.
- AP Seminar students demonstrate stronger AP Exam performance on later AP Exams than their peers who didn't take AP Seminar.
- These results are consistent across race and ethnicity.

Average 2017 AP Scores NEXT-YEAR PERFORMANCE



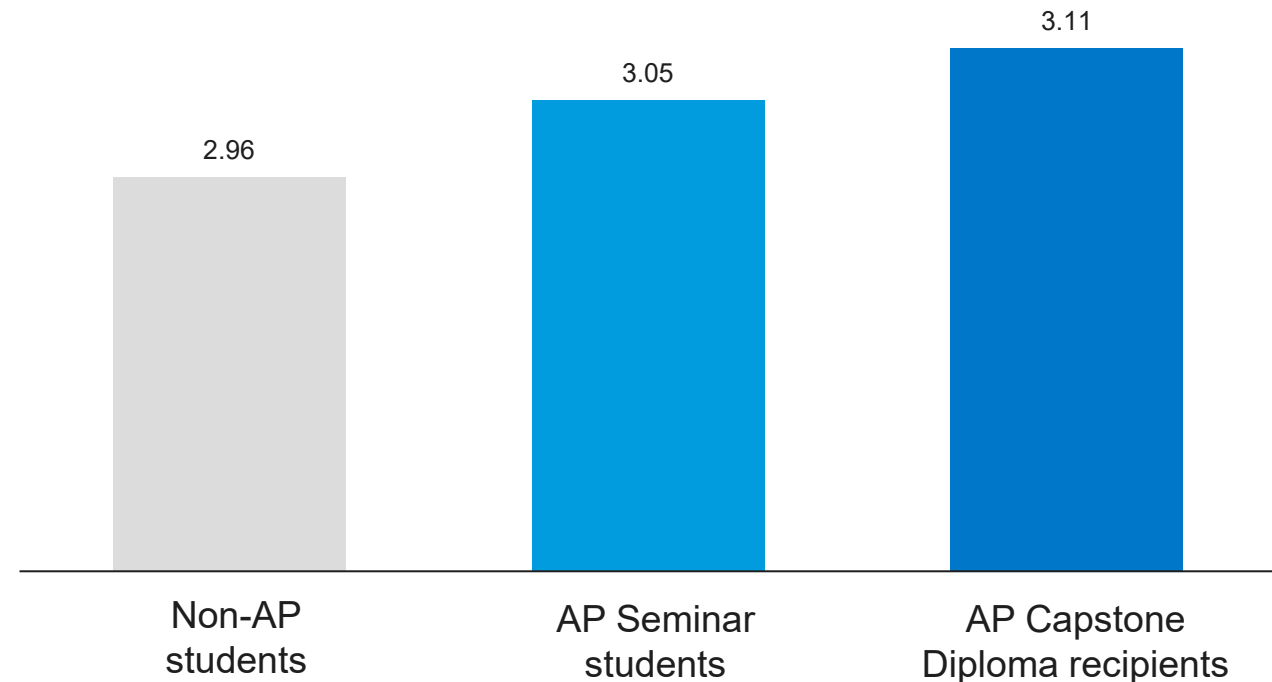
P value < 0.01 (all differences)

Notes: Results presented take into account student **first-generation** and **minority status**, **gender**, **high school grades**, **PSAT/NMSQT® scores**, **number of AP Exams** taken in the same subject area prior to AP Seminar, and number of other AP Exams taken prior to and concurrent with AP Seminar.

College Benefit No. 1: Higher First-Year GPAs

- AP Seminar students were shown to outperform non-AP students in first-year college GPA.
- AP Capstone courses emphasize academic skills, including:
 - Investigating academic and real-world topics
 - Interpreting and evaluating different perspectives
 - Gathering and analyzing data
 - Developing evidence-based arguments
 - Communicating publicly
- These results are consistent across race and ethnicity.

Average First-Year College GPA



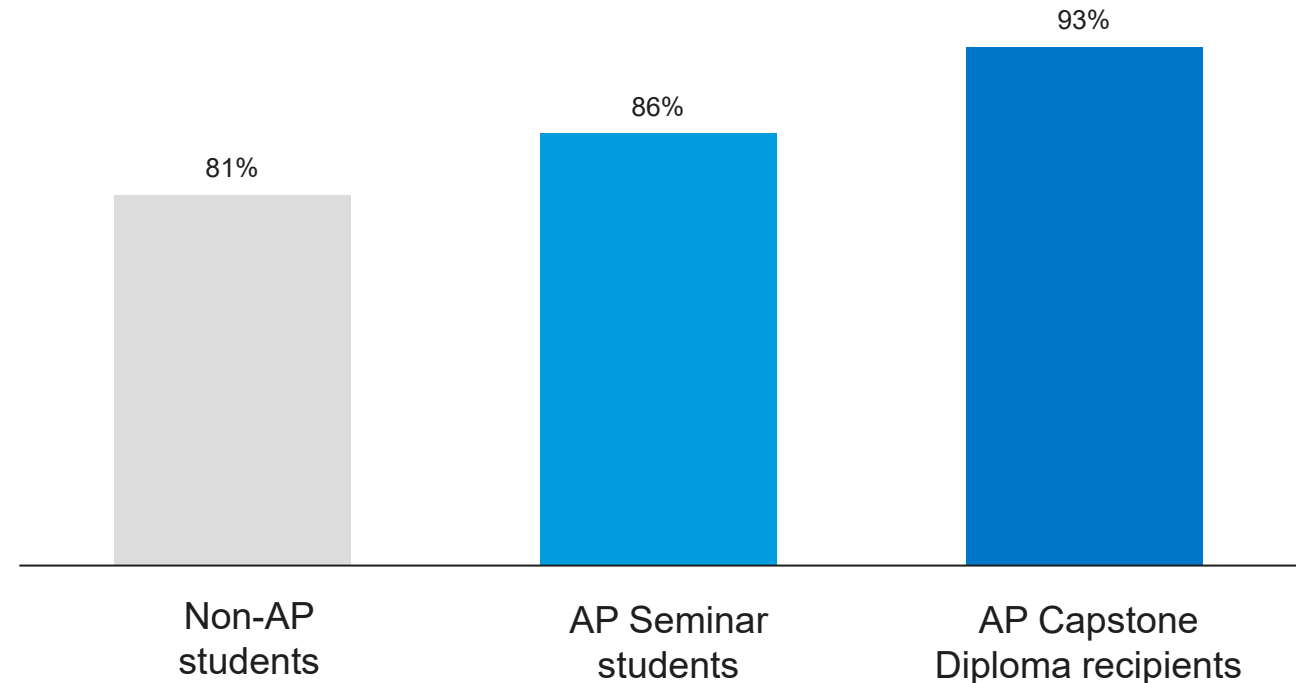
P value < 0.01 (all differences)

Notes: Effects isolated by taking into account student **first-generation** and **minority status**, **gender**, **high school grades**, and **SAT scores**

College Benefit No. 2: Greater Second- Year Retention

- AP Seminar students have higher likelihood of persisting to the second year of higher education than their non-AP peers.
- AP Capstone courses also emphasize non-academic skills, including:
 - Managing long-term projects
 - Meeting deadlines
 - Collaborating in teams
- These results are consistent across race and ethnicity.

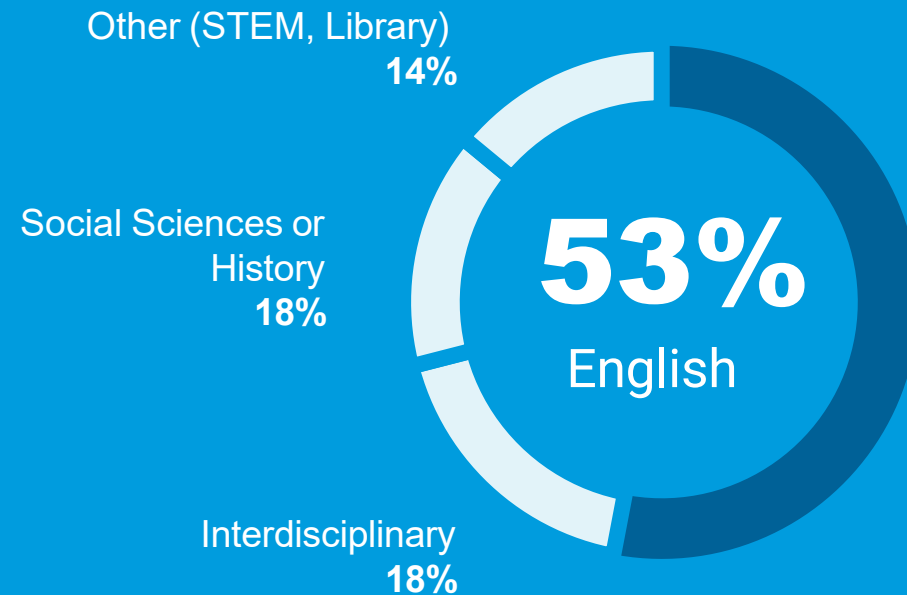
Probability of Second-Year Retention (%)



P value < 0.01 (all differences)

Notes: Effects isolated by taking into account student **first-generation** and **minority status**, **gender**, **high school grades**, and **SAT scores**

Department Assignments for AP Seminar 2021 Teacher Survey



Schools Offer AP Seminar in the English Department

- AP Seminar is content-agnostic and can therefore be scheduled and staffed flexibly, but more than half of all schools offer it as an English course.
- Schools have full autonomy on scheduling and staffing AP Seminar
 - AP doesn't specify an academic department.
 - AP doesn't require teachers to have specific teaching certifications.

Note: School leaders should consider state or local requirements for department credit or teacher credentialing when scheduling and staffing AP Seminar.

AP Seminar has strong overlap with English 10 standards.

Common standards for English 10	Overlap with AP Seminar
Reading informational texts	★ ★ ★
Writing: argumentative or explanatory	★ ★ ★
Speaking and listening	★ ★ ★
Reading literary texts	★ ★ ☆
Language	★ ★ ☆
Writing: creative or narrative	★ ☆ ☆

- **Reading:** Students read and analyze a wide range of texts, including academic journals, informational texts and literary works.
- **Writing, Speaking, and Listening:** Students summarize their findings in writing and through multimedia presentations.



FOR TEACHER PLANNING

Incorporate literary analysis, language, and creative writing.

How AP Seminar teachers address gaps in ELA standards

Incorporate **literary texts** and **analysis**.

Consider anchor texts.

- Use a single literary text, along with nonfiction texts, to inspire student research.

Consider excerpt texts.

- Tailor literary excerpts to state standards.
- Choose excerpts that feature specific analysis techniques.

Integrate **language skills** and **mechanics**.

Connect language skills to texts.

- Choose anchor texts or excerpt texts that allow figurative language analysis.

Scaffold mechanics throughout.

- Grammar, style, citation tested on the AP Seminar exam.
- Introduce skills early and scaffold rigor in each unit.

Use pre- or post-exam time for **creative writing**.

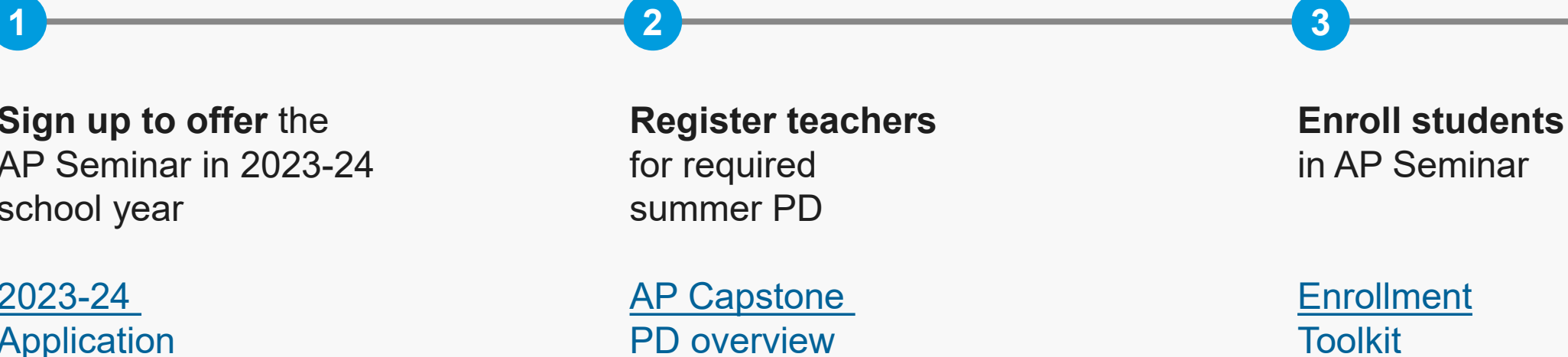
Consider summer lead-in

- Assign writing before term and deliver instruction before performance tasks begin

Consider post-exam units

- Deliver creative writing units following AP Seminar Exam.

Three Steps to Offer **AP Seminar** at Your School



Note: The priority deadline is December 15, 2022.

[Elevate English 10 with AP Seminar](https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-seminar/course/elevate-english-10)

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/courses/ap-seminar/course/elevate-english-10>

Roadmap to the Future

AP Precalculus

AP African American Studies

and more . . .

Offer AP[®] Precalculus at Your School

2023-24 School Year





Every student who is
ready for high school
precalculus is ready
for **AP Precalculus**.

All 12 Prerequisites Are Taught in Prior Courses

For Success in AP Precalculus

Expected Prior Knowledge and Skills	Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2
Proficiency with linear functions	✓	✓	✓
Proficiency in polynomial addition and multiplication	✓		✓
Proficiency in factoring quadratic trinomials	✓		✓
Proficiency in using the quadratic formula	✓		✓
Proficiency in solving right triangle problems involving trigonometry		✓	✓
Proficiency in solving linear and quadratic equations and inequalities	✓		✓
Proficiency in algebraic manipulation of linear equations and expressions	✓	✓	
Proficiency in solving systems of equations in two and three variables	✓		✓
Familiarity with piecewise-defined functions	✓		✓
Familiarity with exponential functions and rules for exponents	✓		✓
Familiarity with radicals (e.g., square roots, cube roots)	✓	✓	
Familiarity with complex numbers			✓

AP Precalculus Fits Into All the Common Math Pathways

Most students will take AP Precalculus as seniors, but some will take it earlier in prep for AP Calculus AB or BC.

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5+
Algebra 1	Geometry	Algebra 2	AP Precalculus*	AP Calculus AB* AP Calculus BC*^ AP Statistics*
			AP Statistics	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Precalculus
			AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus BC AP Statistics
	Algebra 2	Geometry	AP Precalculus* AP Calculus AB AP Statistics	AP Calculus AB* AP Calculus BC*^ AP Statistics*
	Geometry and Algebra 2	AP Precalculus* AP Statistics AP Calculus AB	AP Calculus AB* AP Calculus BC*^ AP Statistics	AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC AP Statistics*

* Represents an anticipated sequence for most students on this pathway.
 ^ It is anticipated that a higher percentage of students may pursue AP Calculus BC having had AP Precalculus due to topic coverage not found in some precalculus courses.

Note: The **Pre-AP** course sequence is Pre-AP Algebra 1, Pre-AP Geometry with Statistics, Pre-AP Algebra 2.

You Can Replace Any Precalculus Section with AP Precalculus

No Matter the Grade or Level

AP Precalculus will prepare these students for AP Calculus AB or BC in Grade 12.

Grade 11 Precalculus

Honors Sections:



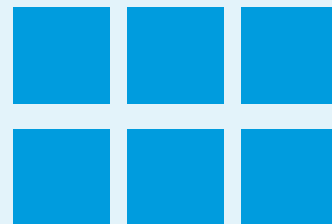
Regular Sections:

Grade 12 Precalculus

Honors Sections:



Regular Sections:



AP Precalculus will provide these students with the opportunity for college credit.

AP Precalculus can be taught from your existing textbooks. Students should get college credit for the college work they're already doing.

Similar Content: Precalculus is Precalculus

AP Precalculus contains similar content as existing high school precalculus courses – which are, by their design, already advanced.

High School Precalculus

- ✓ Polynomial Functions
 - ✓ Rational Functions
 - ✓ Exponential Functions
 - ✓ Trigonometric Functions
 - ✓ Polar Functions
-
- ✓ *In Most Courses:** Functions Involving Parameters, Vectors, and Matrices

AP Precalculus

- ✓ Polynomial Functions
 - ✓ Rational Functions
 - ✓ Exponential Functions
 - ✓ Trigonometric Functions
 - ✓ Polar Functions
-
- ✓ Functions Involving Parameters, Vectors, and Matrices

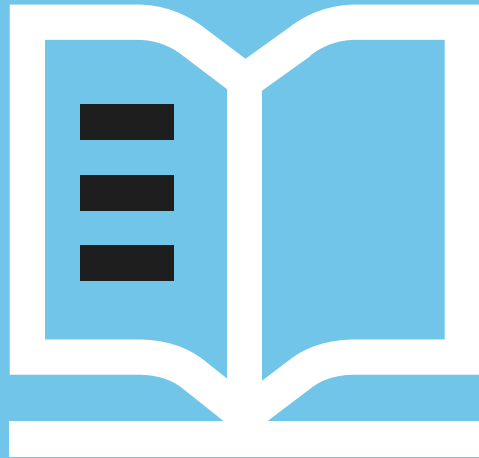
College Precalculus

- ✓ Polynomial Functions
 - ✓ Rational Functions
 - ✓ Exponential Functions
 - ✓ Trigonometric Functions
 - ✓ Polar Functions
-
- ✓ *In Most Courses:* Functions Involving Parameters, Vectors, and Matrices

* Free professional development and student resources will be available in Summer 2023.

No Need to Switch: Use Your Existing Textbook

Precalculus is precalculus



Continue to use your existing precalculus textbook

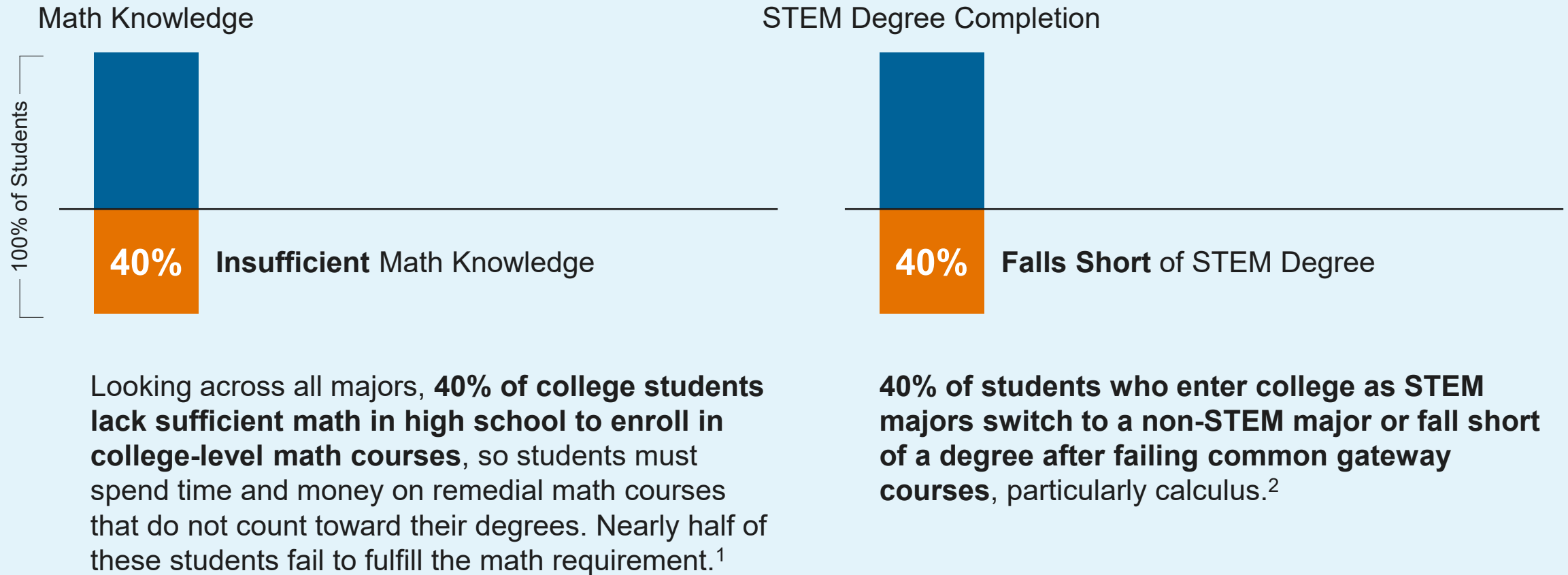
- Teachers will find that the AP Precalculus course covers much of the same content as their existing precalculus course.
- They can continue to use their existing precalculus textbook, which is already college level, and follow along with the course and exam description.
- Free additional resources will be available in AP Classroom, including AP Daily videos and Personal Progress Checks.

AP Precalculus: More Time, Incentives, and Supports

	High School Precalculus	College Precalculus	AP Precalculus
Functions Studied:	Polynomial / Rational	Polynomial / Rational	Polynomial / Rational
Functions Studied:	Exponential / Logarithmic	Exponential / Logarithmic	Exponential / Logarithmic
Functions Studied:	Trigonometric / Polar	Trigonometric / Polar	Trigonometric / Polar
Functions Studied:	Parameters / Vectors / Matrices*	Parameters / Vectors / Matrices*	Parameters / Vectors / Matrices
Hours of Instruction:	140 hours	48 hours	140 hours
Incentives:			GPA bonus points
Incentives:			College credit opportunity
Supports:			AP Daily Videos
Supports:			Free AP Online Practice
Supports:			AP Teacher Workshops

* In Most Courses

Why AP Precalculus Matters



¹ Chen, X. (2016). Remedial Coursetaking at U.S. Public 2- and 4-Year Institutions: Scope, Experiences, and Outcomes (NCES 2016-405). U.S. Department of Education. Washington, DC: National Center for Education Statistics. Retrieved May 2022 from <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch>.

² <https://www.nytimes.com/2011/11/06/education/edlife/why-science-majors-change-their-mind-its-just-so-darn-hard.html?pagewanted=all>

Students Get a Larger **Boost** with Precalculus

Precalculus Is a Powerful High School Math Course



Students who take precalculus in high school are

155%

more likely to complete a bachelor's degree³,
a higher boost in degree completion than students
taking Algebra 2, Trigonometry, or Calculus.



³ Trusty, J., & Niles, S. G. (2003). High-school math courses and completion of the bachelor's degree. Professional School Counseling, 7(2), 99–107.



For many seniors, taking AP Precalculus may be their only opportunity to experience AP before graduating high school.

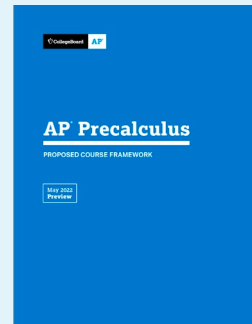
- Taking even one AP course changes student outcomes - greatly improving their first-year college GPA and on-time college graduation rates.
- Offering AP Precalculus, especially among those students who haven't yet taken any AP course, can be transformative.

About AP Precalculus

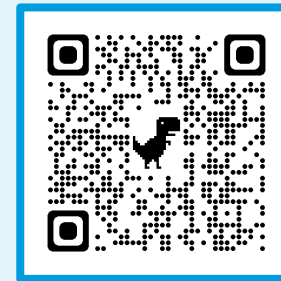
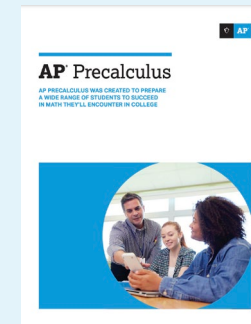
AP Central



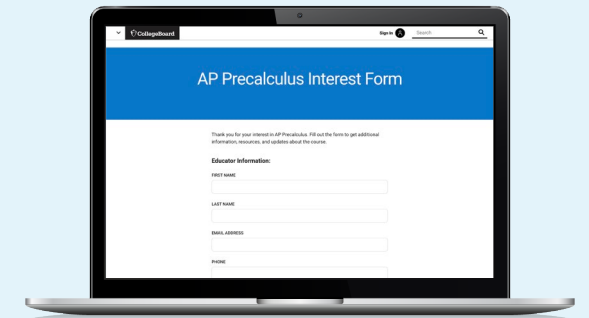
Course Framework



Brochure

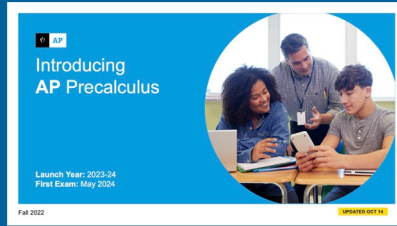


Interest Form



Download the Introducing AP Precalculus Presentation

Presentation



Here's what's inside:

Introducing AP Precalculus



01

Why offer AP Precalculus?

Inadequate Preparation for College Math,
Benefits of AP Precalculus

02

Who should take AP Precalculus?

Algebra 1 in Grade 9, Algebra 1 in Grade 8,
Majors/Careers Not Requiring Calculus

03

What's in AP Precalculus?

Student Experience, Unit Outline, Course at a
Glance, Mathematical Practices

04

Bring AP Precalculus to your school.

Textbooks, Calculators, Teacher Supports,
Student Readiness

Introducing AP Precalculus

3



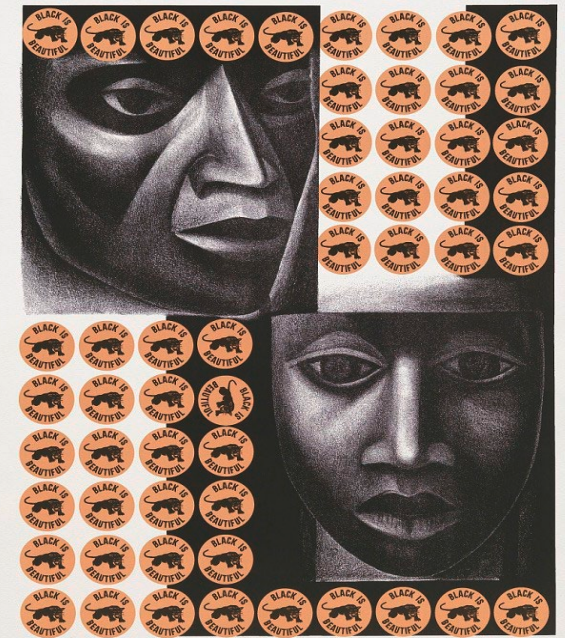
Sign Up to Pilot AP[®] African American Studies

Pilot the Course in the 2023-24 School Year



AP African American Studies

A multidisciplinary course that examines the breadth of African American experiences through direct encounters with rich and varied sources, drawing from the fields of literature, the arts and humanities, political science, geography, science, and more.



The course is based on rigorous research



Syllabi Review

100+ college syllabi, including 11 HBCUs, all 8 Ivies, and 26 state flagship institutions. **Winter 2021**



Higher Ed Focus Groups

Conversations with 133 college faculty about the scope of the course, instructional resources, and plans for teacher training. **Spring 2021**



Advisory Board and Writing Team

Scholars and teachers helped shape the overarching vision of the course and draft models of the course framework. **Summer 2021**



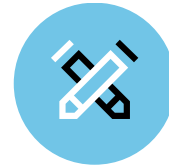
High School Insights

High school teacher and administrator focus groups and review of curriculum guides/syllabi. **Summer 2021**



Higher Ed Advisory Sessions

Four in-depth panel sessions with ~50 college faculty about proposed course units and topics. **Fall 2021**



Higher Education Symposium

Almost 200 college faculty gathered to review and provide feedback on the course framework and exam design with an eye towards aligning to college courses with the goal of securing credit and placement for the Exam. **Spring 2022**



Disciplinary Organizations, Advocacy Groups, and Luminaries

Outreach conversations with organizations including ASALH, ASWAD, NMAAHC, and GLI to gather input, expand instructional and professional learning resources, and build a coalition of support. **Ongoing**

Course Content

This course is organized by four thematic units that follow a chronological flow across the course.

Across each unit, students build interdisciplinary analytical skills through deep encounters with a wide range of texts and sources.

Unit 1

Origins of the African Diaspora

(~8th century CE- 16th century)

Unit 2

Freedom, Enslavement, and Resistance

(~16th century CE-1865)

Unit 3

The Practice of Freedom

(1865-1960s)

Unit 4

Movements and Debates

(1960s-early 2000s)

Course Skills

There are **three skill categories** that students will master as they progress through our AP African American Studies course:



Applying Disciplinary Knowledge

Explain course concepts, developments, patterns, and processes (e.g., cultural, historical, political, social).



Written Source Analysis

Evaluate written, data, and visual sources (including historical documents, literary texts, music lyrics, tables, charts graphs, maps, works of art, and material culture).



Argumentation

Develop an argument using a line of reasoning to connect claims and evidence.

Exam

- **In-school digital exam** administered with a proctor.
- Students take the end-of-year exam on **Chromebooks (school-managed only), Windows and Mac laptops and desktops, and iPad** devices.
- Students submit their through-year project in the **Digital Portfolio**
- Exam fee in 2024 is **\$98**.

Exam Section	# of Questions
Multiple Choice Section	60 total
Free Response Section	4 short answer questions
Through-Year Project	1 essay



About the Pilot



**350–500
schools**

will participate in the
pilot in 2023–24,
including schools that
participated in the
2022–23 pilot.

OCT

Invitations to
participate
sent out
to schools

JAN

Deadline to
return
participation
agreement

FEB

Onboarding
webinar for
teachers and
administrators

JUL–AUG

4 APSIs
offered across
the country
(\$1,299 per
teacher)

Exam and College Credit

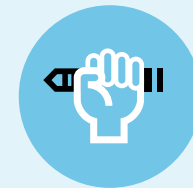
Students will receive an exam score and the opportunity
for college credit.

Participation Agreement

Principals will need to sign a participation agreement that contains the following:



Requires a minimum enrollment of **20 students** in the course.



Requires the school to **recruit a class representative of the school's demographics**.



Requires the school's **participation in surveys and focus groups** of teachers, students, and administrators.



Requires schools to offer the course **for at least three years**.



Requires efforts be made to recruit **a teacher with a background in the discipline**.

Sign Up to Pilot the Course in the 2023-24 School Year

