



## Advanced Placement Overview

The “Advanced Placement” brand references a specific curriculum and set of content knowledge expectations developed by the College Board. A core tenet of Providence Academy’s educational philosophy is its independently-designed curriculum that does not teach to any external test. Accordingly, PA chooses not to seek College Board’s AP designation for any of its courses. That said, much of the AP curriculum is present within the content PA teaches in certain courses. PA offers appropriate AP exams where this is the case. These exams may require that students review material independently and, in some cases, learn additional material not present within PA’s course scope and sequence. When deciding whether to register for AP exams, students should consider both their performance in PA courses **and** their capacity to take time outside of regular academic and extracurricular demands, from February-May, in order to prepare and sit for the exam. In the first week of October, 2023, Mrs. McMullin will offer informational meetings about AP exam registration. PA has no formal application or approval process for AP exams, but students are required to attend one of the AP information sessions or their registrations will not be processed. The AP registration form is due **Wednesday, October 18**. The registration fee is \$72 per exam (billable to student accounts), as well as a \$40 cancellation fee after November 15, 2023.

### Resources

- AP Prep through Naviance
- AP Central (<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/>)
  - Sample exams
  - Course and Exam description
  - Updates
- AP on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/advancedplacement>)
  - Many video, lessons, and mini-lectures are available

### Timeline

- August/September
  - Academic Programing will share AP information with sophomores, juniors, and seniors in back-to-school communications and parent nights
- October
  - AP Information Sessions (late September, Early October)
  - Wednesday before MEA: Internal due date for AP Registration
- November
  - November 10: Due date to order exams
- December/January
  - SSD Coordinator (Melissa Simmons) works with students who will request accommodations during AP testing and starts the request process (January 15 deadline for accommodations requests)
- May
  - Exams administered according to the national schedule
  - Alternate (late testing) exams on a national schedule one week after national exam dates
- July
  - AP score release

**College Credit for AP – Required scores, on select exams, to receive course credit at select colleges**

Exam	UM-Twin Cities	U. of St. Thomas	Notre Dame	Yale
English Lit.	4 or higher	4 or higher	4 or higher	5
U.S. History	3 or higher	4 or higher	Not accepted	Not accepted
Euro. History	3 or higher	4 or higher	Not accepted	Not accepted
Calculus AB	3 or higher	3 or higher	5	5
Physics 1	3 or higher	3 or higher	5	Not accepted
Spanish Lang.	Not accepted	3 or higher	Not accepted	5
Latin	3 or higher	3 or higher	3 or higher	5
Comp. Science A	3 or higher	4 or higher	Not accepted	Not accepted

1. PA has no “approval” process for AP Exams. Students may register for the exams they wish to take, and must know that these are rigorous, college-level exams that may require independent preparation and study of additional content.
2. Students must attend an AP information session or their registration will be void.
3. Students must share their intent to sit for an exam the Wednesday before MEA. Students will be charged \$68.00 per exam. No charges are added to student accounts until they have taken their AP exam(s), and students will be charged only for the exams they complete. 2. Students are not obligated to take any AP exam unless required by the course description/syllabus.
4. Teachers will give students an idea of the material they must learn or review outside of class in order to succeed on the exam.

**AP Exams: to take or not to take**

When considering whether or not to take AP exams, strong (3-5) AP exam scores, along with a rigorous course load taken at Providence Academy, give college admission officers an indication that they can handle college-level coursework. In addition, scores of 3-5 may provide the following benefits: higher course placement for a strong score on an AP exam; credits earned toward college graduation; placing out of an introductory course; a lower workload in college; earlier registration windows or better campus housing priority (due to having more credits); opportunities to take additional college electives, and/or early graduation. All these depend on the policies of the college chosen.

Sitting for a 3+ hour exam without adequate preparation is likely a waste of time and registration fees. AP standards measure mastery of what a college student would know after taking an introductory college course in the particular subject. PA academic and extracurricular obligations continue even during AP testing (students miss several class periods while sitting for the exam, portions of before or after school activities, etc).

All students should first speak with their teachers to determine which exams to take. Seniors should research the AP credit policies at the colleges where they are most likely to enroll. If the college does not award AP credit at all for certain exams, or awards credit only for the highest score (a “5”), then seniors should weigh these factors before registering. On the other hand, students with real strength in particular academic disciplines may want to take the AP exam regardless of a college’s credit policies because they could earn AP Scholar recognition for passing 3 or more AP exams before graduation. Juniors do not have the luxury of knowing precisely where

they will apply and therefore should think primarily about their strength in the subject in question. Most colleges publish their AP credit chart online, which is easy to find by searching “[college name] AP Chart” in any internet browser.

What course at Providence Academy prepare students for success in Advanced Placement exams

Providence Academy Courses	Advanced Placement Exam
Studio Art IV/Honors	AP 2-D Art and Design
Studio Art IV/Honors	AP Drawing
Calculus I Honors	AP Calculus AB
Calculus II	AP Calculus BC
Probability and Statistics	AP Statistics
English 12: Senior Eng. Sem. or English 10-11 H	AP English Literature and Composition
Computer Science	AP Computer Science A
Physics Honors	AP Physics 1 Algebra-based
Advanced Physics	AP Physics 2 Algebra-based
	AP Physics C: Mechanics
Advanced Physics	AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism
Advanced French	AP French Language and Culture
Advanced Spanish	AP Spanish Language and Culture
Latin Poetry, ACC and Latin Prose, ACC	AP Latin
History 10: European History Honors	AP European History
History 11-12: U.S. History I-II Honors	AP United States History