Advance Placement (AP) Courses

The AP Program gives students the opportunity to take post-secondary level courses while they are still in high school.

AP courses are challenging and demanding. However, the rewards are many: much smaller class size (compared to post-secondary), complimentary use of textbook(s) and advanced credit and/or placement at participating colleges and universities throughout the world are just some of the benefits.

In addition, students who take an AP course and score a 5 or 4 typically perform better in university than students who do not take an AP course

In order to obtain advanced placement and/or credit status at a participating college or university, a student will need to write the AP exam(s). Also, students need to check with the post-secondary institution of their choice to see whether AP exams are accepted and what AP exam grade is needed to gain credit and/or advanced placement for a particular course. It is strongly recommended that students conduct this investigation before ordering AP exams.

A student does not have to take an AP course to write the corresponding AP exam, however the exam mark is not used in admissions calculations.

Information about ordering AP exams will be available to all students in January. Please note that each exam costs approximately $120 (the price is subject to change with notice due to the fluctuating value of the Canadian dollar) and is payable by the end of January. AP exams are written in May. Full course descriptions can be found at the AP website:

http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/courses/descriptions/index.html

AP 2D DESIGN PORTFOLIO 12

This portfolio is intended to address a very broad interpretation of 2D design issues. This type of design of space, illusion of motion, pattern, texture, value, and color) are like a palette of possibilities that involves purposeful decision-making about how to use the elements and principles of art in an integrative way. The principles of design help guide artists in making decisions about how to organize the elements on a picture plane in order to communicate content. These principles include: unity/variety, balance, emphasis, rhythm, and proportion/scale. For this portfolio, students are asked to demonstrate proficiency in 2D design using a variety of art forms. These could include graphic design, typography, digital imaging, photography, collage, fabric design, illustration, painting, and printmaking. A variety of approaches such as: representation, abstraction, and expression may be part of the student's portfolio.

AP 3D DESIGN PORTFOLIO 12

This portfolio is intended to address a broad interpretation of sculptural issues in depth and space. These may include mass, volume, form, plane, light and texture. Such elements and concepts can be articulated through additive, subtractive, and/or fabrication processes. A variety of approaches, such as: representation, abstraction, and expression may be part of the student's portfolio. These might include traditional sculpture, architectural models, apparel, ceramics, 3D fibre arts or metalwork.

AP BIOLOGY 12

The key concepts and related content that define the revised AP Biology course are organized around a few underlying principles: the process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life; biological systems utilize free energy and molecular building blocks to grow, to reproduce and to maintain dynamic homeostasis; living systems store, retrieve, transmit and respond to information essential to life processes; and biological systems interact, and these systems and their interactions possess complex properties

AP CALCULUS 12 AB

A.P. Calculus is a university level calculus course. This course is intended for students who are concurrently taking, or have completed, Mathematics 12. Topics include differentiation, integration and their applications. The pre-requisite is Pre-Calculus 11 and the student must either have already completed Pre-Calculus 12 or be taking it concurrently.

AP CHEMISTRY 12

The AP Chemistry course provides students with a foundation to support future advanced course work in chemistry. Through inquiry based learning, students develop critical thinking and reasoning skills. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry and science practices as they explore topics such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium.

AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION 12

The AP English Literature and Composition course aligns to an introductory college-level literary analysis course. The course engages students in the close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative language, imagery, symbolism, and tone. Writing assignments include expository, analytical, and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

AP ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE 12

The AP Environmental Science course is designed to be the equivalent of a one semester introductory college course in environmental science. Topics include earth systems and resources, the living world, population, land and water use, energy resources and consumption, pollution and global change. *Completion of Chemistry 11 and Biology 11 is highly recommended.*

AP FRENCH LANGUAGE & CULTURE

This course, open only to French Immersion students, strives to develop a superior level of skills emphasizing the use of the language for communication in a variety of contexts. Students will increase their vocabulary through reading magazines, newspapers, literary works and other nontechnical articles. This course will emphasize oral presentations, development of listening skills and a further appreciation of culture.

AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY 12

The purpose of the AP course in Human Geography is to introduce students to the systematic study of patterns and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of the Earth's surface. Students employ spatial concepts and landscape analysis to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They also learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science and practice. Topics of study include urbanization and patterns of urban development, agriculture, demographics, industry and its location, spread of world languages and religions, and different uses of space by various cultures.

AP PHYSICS 1

This course is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course that explores topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple circuits. Through inquiry based learning, students will develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills

AP PSYCHOLOGY 12

The AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of behaviour and mental processes of human beings and other animals. This course is recommended for those students who have an interest in a comprehensive study of the breadth and depth of Psychology and may wish to pursue it further at a post-secondary institution. This course focuses on developing student skills that will help them succeed in a post-secondary

setting. This will include: critical thinking, essay writing, research and experimental methods, academic reading, and oral presentation skills.

AP STATISTICS 12

In colleges and universities, a large number of students take a statistics course. Courses similar to AP. Statistics are required for study in such fields as business, the social sciences, and health sciences. Knowledge of statistics is required for students intending to do research. A.P. Statistics introduces students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Pre-requisite is Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10 or Pre-Calculus 11.