

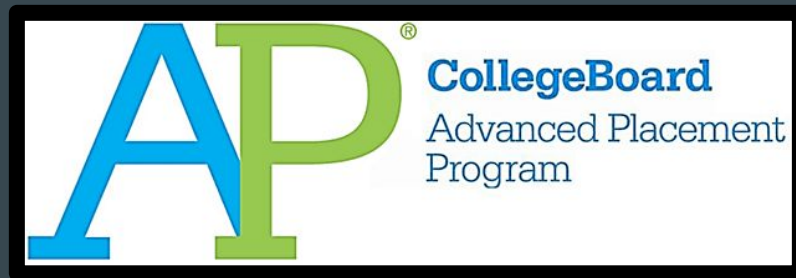
MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS



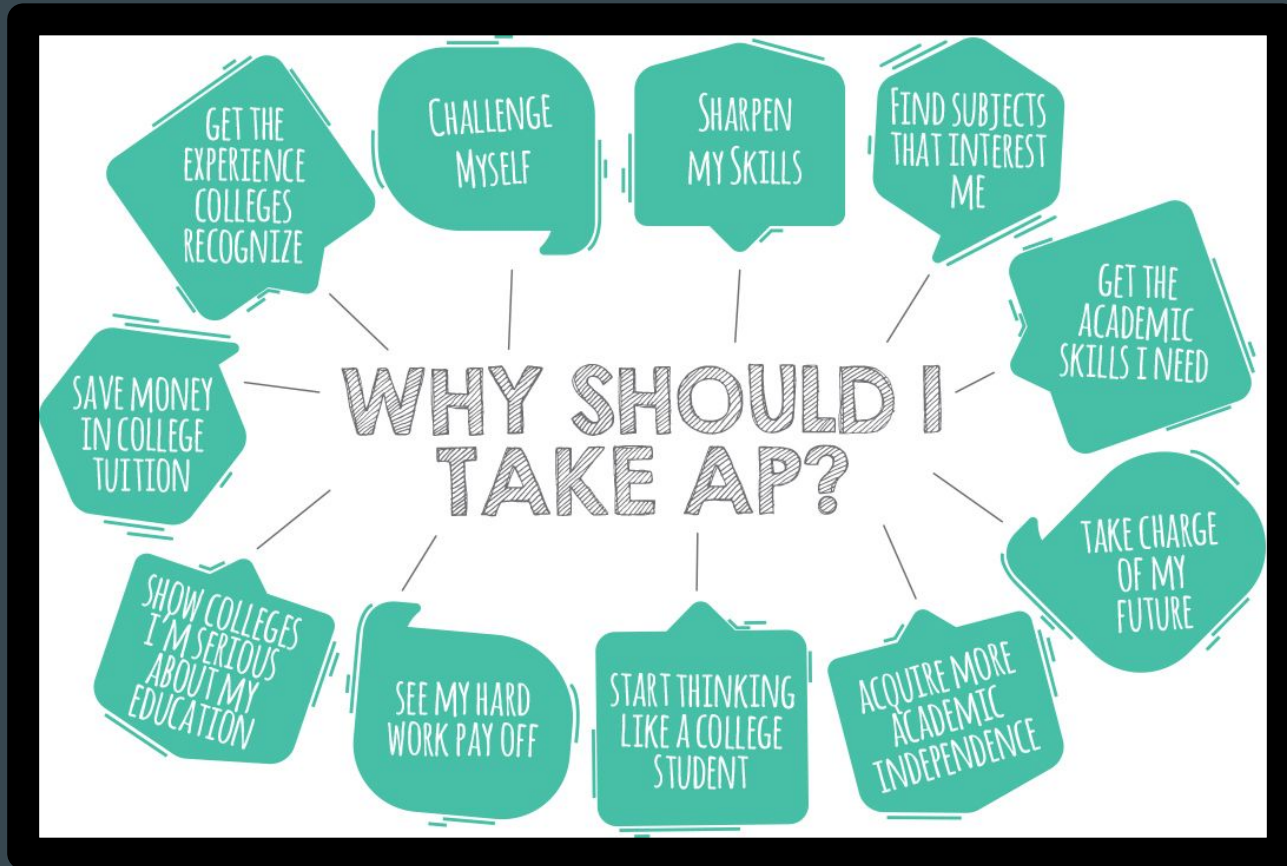
ADVANCED PLACEMENT &
DUAL ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS

What are Advanced Placement courses?

- College-level curricula approved by the College Board to be offered at the high school level.
- Participating students experience the rigors of college-level studies with the support of the high school environment.
- Offer students the opportunity to earn college credit while in high school.



Why should my child consider taking an AP course?



Reasons Associated With Taking Advanced Placement Courses

The Right Reasons

1. Students have a love of the subject.
2. Students want to learn more about the subject.
3. Students have a strong desire to go into more depth in this subject.
4. Students want to be challenged in the subject.

Other Reasons

1. It looks good on a student's high school transcript.
2. Many of a student's friends may be taking the course.
3. Students feel pressured to take the course.

What is Middletown's philosophy regarding Advanced Placement?

The Middletown Township School District believes that all students can benefit from the rigor of Advanced Placement coursework. We believe that access to our very best curricula should be open to all students willing to put forth the effort to succeed in college-level courses. By making our Advanced Placement program more inclusive, we believe that Middletown students will be part of a college-going culture that will help to ensure his or her readiness to succeed at the post-secondary level.



What Advanced Placement courses does Middletown offer?

Prerequisites

- AP Calculus AB (Pre-Calculus Honors OR Algebra 2/Pre-Calculus Honors)
- AP Calculus BC (AP Calculus AB)
- AP Computer Science Principles (Algebra 1)
- AP Computer Science (Algebra 1 and Intro to Computer Science OR AP Computer Science Principles)
- AP Statistics (Algebra 2)
- AP French (French 4)
- AP Spanish (Spanish 4)
- AP Italian (Italian 3)
- AP Studio Art (2 Years of Art)
- AP Biology (Biology & Chemistry)
- AP Chemistry (Chemistry)
- AP Physics 1 (Chemistry / Pre-Calc Honors)
- AP Physics C (Physics)
- AP Environmental Science (Biology & Chemistry)

No Prerequisites

- AP English Literature
- AP English Language
- AP US History
- AP European History
- AP World History
- AP Psychology
- AP Economics
- AP Human Geography
- AP Music Theory
- AP Art History
- AP US Government & Politics

What are the expectations & supports for students taking Advanced Placement courses?

Expectations

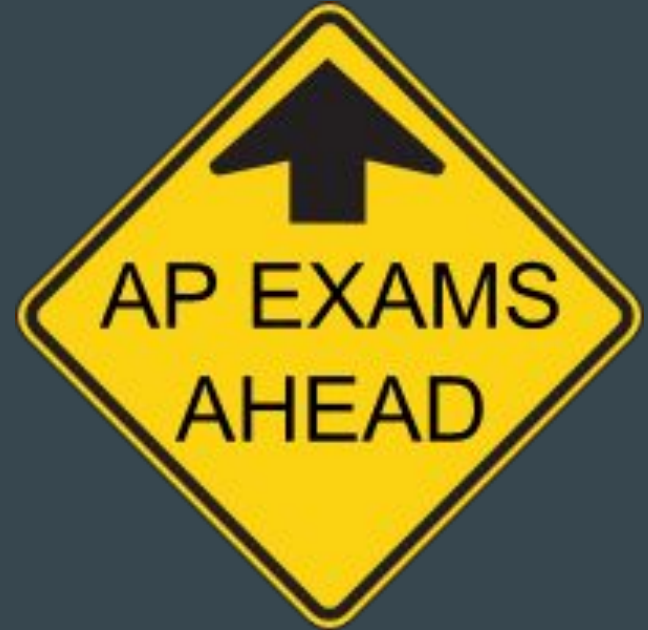
- Weekly readings
- Weekly homework
- Summer preparation
- Reflecting on and revising work
- The AP Exam is the **final step** taken after a year of hard work in an AP class.

Supports

- Advisory time
- Feedback and revision opportunities
- Redesigned *Summer Tutorial*
- *Test Prep Sessions* (offered to students in the spring before the AP exam is administered in May)

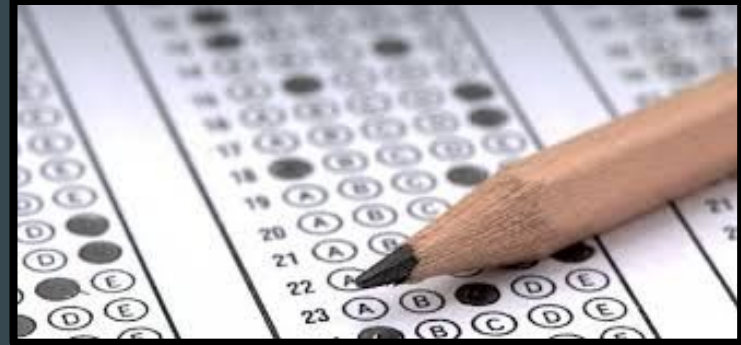
The Advanced Placement Exam

- Given in May
- Each exam is approximately \$100
 - Cost incurred by families*
- 2-3 hour assessments that include multiple choice and free response questions
- Scored on a scale of 1-5
 - 5 = Extremely Well Qualified
 - 4 = Well Qualified
 - 3 = Qualified
 - 2 = Possibly Qualified
 - 1 = No Recommendation
 - “Qualified” means that students have proven themselves capable of doing the work of an introductory-level course in a particular subject at college.
 - A “2” is NOT a “failing” grade



The Advanced Placement Exam cont.

- The exam provides students and teachers with a standardized measure of what they have accomplished in the AP classroom, which is an essential part of the AP program.
- Exams are assessed by unbiased college and university professors and AP teachers throughout the country using college-level standards.
- Final scores are sent to colleges of the student's choosing.
- Many colleges & universities grant credit & placement for scores of 3, 4, or 5. **Each college decides which scores it will accept.**
- [Advanced Placement Scores Reference Page](#)



Advanced Placement Myths & Realities

Myth

AP courses are only for the most academically gifted students.



AP courses are for all students who are academically prepared and motivated to take on college-level curricula.

AP courses are too stressful and/or difficult.



In a supportive, collaborative classroom, with like-minded students and a dedicated teacher, all students can find success.

Scoring a “3”, “4”, or “5” on the AP exam are the only measures of success.



Exposure to AP curriculum and coursework has substantial value *independent* of test scores.

“The debate about whether schools should provide students with training for work or preparation for college is now obsolete... Brainpower is the manpower of the new millenium. Utility and knowledge have become one and the same.”

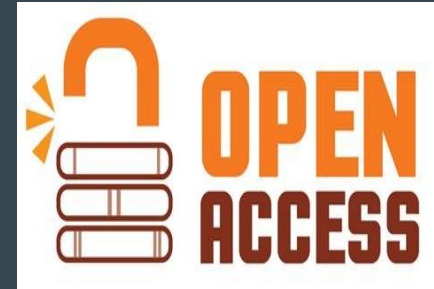
- The College Board

“Students - including those with previously low achievement levels who take more rigorous, academically intense programs in high school enroll and persist in postsecondary education at higher rates than similar students who pursue less challenging courses of study.”

- Adelman (2006) & Oakes and Saunders (2007) in Bangser, 2008

The Future of Middletown's AP Program

- Inclusion rather than exclusion
 - All students should have access to our very best curricula
 - All students would benefit from the skills developed by the rigors of AP coursework
- Promote a “college-going” culture
- Increase college readiness
- Create more competitive high school transcripts



What are Dual Enrollment courses?

- Program that allows high school students to enroll in college courses for credit prior to graduating high school.
 - Offered through specific colleges and universities
 - Located in both MTPS high schools and on the Brookdale Community College campus
- There is no culminating exam (I.E. AP Exam) to earn the college credit.
 - Credit is earned through successful completion of the course
 - Final class grade of 70 or above is typically required

Requirements to Enroll in Dual Enrollment Courses

- Some dual enrollment courses (depending on sponsoring college or university) require students to have a cut score on Accuplacer or SAT.
- College application (fee typically waived)
- Tuition payment is required to receive the college credits.
 - Roughly $\frac{1}{3}$ of what it would cost at the sponsoring college or university (approximately \$175 per dual-enrollment course)
 - Parents/Guardians are responsible for tuition payment

Dual-Enrollment Courses Currently* Offered in Middletown

- Introduction to Business (Brookdale C.C.)
- Introduction to Marketing (Brookdale C.C.)
- Business Ethics (Seton Hall University)
- International Business (Fairleigh Dickinson University)
- BCC Short Story (Brookdale C.C.)
- BCC English (Brookdale C.C.)
- Tomorrow's Teachers (Rider University)
- Honors Accounting (Fairleigh Dickinson University)
- AP Spanish (Seton Hall University)
- AP French (Seton Hall University)
- AP Italian (Seton Hall University)
- AP Studio Art (Seton Hall University)
- AP Biology (Seton Hall University)
- AP Computer Science (Seton Hall University)
- AP English Language (Seton Hall University)
- Human Anatomy and Physiology (Seton Hall University)



*This list continues to grow.

Advanced Placement Student Panel

