An Introduction to the Advanced Placement Program®

La Cueva High School
La Cueva High School is committed to every student’s success.

We believe access to rigorous course work such as Advanced Placement® (AP®) plays an important role in that success.
What We Will Cover

• What are Advanced Placement® Courses?
• The Benefits
• AP® Exams
• What Is It Like to Take AP?
• Next Steps: Help Your Child Make the Best Choices
• Q & A
What Are Advanced Placement® Courses?
Advanced Placement®: The Basics

• AP® courses are college-level courses offered in high school

• Courses reflect what is taught in top introductory college courses

• Students can take the AP Exam at the end of the course, measuring their mastery of college-level work

• A score of 3 or higher on an AP Exam can typically earn students college credit and/or placement into advanced courses in college
Our AP® Courses

- **English:** English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition
- **Fine Arts:** Art History, Music Theory
- **Mathematics:** Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics
- **Modern Classical Languages:** French Language and Culture, Spanish Language and Culture, German Language and Culture
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics 1: Algebra-based, Physics 2: Algebra-based
- **Social Sciences:** European History, Macroeconomics, United States Government and Politics, United States History, World History, Human Geography
- **Other Electives:** AP Capstone: Seminar and Research, Computer Science, Psychology
AP®: The Benefits
AP®: The Benefits

• Students learn rigorous college-level content and skills

• Taking AP is valued in the college admission process

• AP courses are interesting and rewarding academic experiences

• Opportunity to earn valuable credit and placement in college
85% of selective colleges and universities report that a student’s AP experience favorably impacts admission decisions*

Colleges rank grades in college-preparatory courses and strength of curriculum as the two top factors in the admission decision.

AP courses tell college admission officials that students are challenging themselves and preparing for the rigors they'll encounter in their college careers.

*Unpublished institutional research, Crux Research Inc., March 2007
AP®: A More Engaging Learning Experience

AP courses challenge students to work and participate at a higher level:

• Opportunities to explore topics in depth

• More time in and out of the classroom required to complete assignments and projects

• High expectations for critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evidence, multiple perspectives, and clear written and verbal communications
Taking an AP course helps students build critical thinking skills, confidence, and the essential time management and study skills needed for college success.

Nationally, research shows that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically earn higher grade point averages in college and have higher graduation rates than their non-AP peers.*

Students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely to complete a college degree on time.* Graduating in four years represents a significant savings on the cost of college.

Only 60% of students complete a 4-year degree in 6 years**

The average cost of college for a single year is $21,370 for in-state public colleges (tuition, fees, room/board). For a private college, the average is $48,510 per year. These costs do not include books, transportation and miscellaneous expenses.***

*AP Student Success at the College Level, The College Board, 2016

** https://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=40

AP Exams

AP Exams are administered by schools worldwide on set dates in May each year.

- Exams are typically 2–3 hours and include:
  - Multiple-choice questions
  - Free-response items such as essays, problem solving, document-based questions and oral response

- You can learn more about the AP Exams and see Sample tests at https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/takingtheexam/preparing-for-exams
AP® Expands Students’ Options

When students earn college credit through AP Exams, their options and opportunities expand:

• Move to upper-level college courses sooner
• Pursue a double major
• Gain time to study and travel abroad
AP® at La Cueva High School

- In 2018, 349 La Cueva students took 691 exams
- 72% passed with a 3, 4 or 5
- AP Scholars demonstrate superior college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. They receive an award certificate, and this achievement is acknowledged on any AP score report that is sent to colleges the following fall.
  - 58 AP Scholars (3 or higher on three or more exams)
  - 25 AP Scholars with Honor (average score of 3.25 on all AP exams and 3 or higher on four or more of these exams)
  - 36 AP Scholars with Distinction (average score of 3.5 on all AP exams and 3 or higher on five or more of these exams)
  - 4 National AP Scholars (average score of at least 4 on all AP exams and 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams)

119 Total AP Scholars
La Cueva Students Outperform Others

La Cueva High School (320038)

% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>% of Total AP Students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>72</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

% of Total AP Students

- La Cueva High School (320038)
- New Mexico
- Global
Each college and university has its own policies regarding AP® credit and placement. The College Board offers information about AP credit at thousands of college and universities at www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy.

- Data for each school includes a direct link to that school’s Web page detailing AP credit and placement policies
- A statement from the college or university about its AP policy
Credit Policy

University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM

Offers credit for AP Exams  Yes
Offers placement into higher-level courses for AP Exams  Yes

From the college: CEEB Advanced Placement Program Students who took advanced placement courses in high school, and earned a score of three or higher on the exam, may be eligible for college credit. Score reports should be sent from the College Board directly to the UNM Office of Admissions. For more information, view the credit policy on this college's website.

Additional restrictions and requirements may apply to the policy listed below. For more detailed information, visit the college's AP policy on the Web or contact the college directly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exam Title</th>
<th>Min. Score Required</th>
<th>Number of Credits</th>
<th>Equivalent Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art History</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ArH 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>ArH 201 &amp; 202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>BIOL 123 &amp; 124L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>BIOL 201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>BIOL 201 &amp; BIOL2T</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calculus AB</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Math 162</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calculus BC</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Math 162, 163</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>CHEM 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Chem 121 &amp; 123L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Chem 121, 123L &amp; 122</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• The exam fee for 2019 is $94 per exam

• Assistance is available for eligible students with financial need:
  • The College Board offers a $32 fee reduction per exam and the State of New Mexico offers an additional $59 fee reduction per exam for eligible students with financial need. This brings the cost to $3 per exam for students on the Free or Reduced Priced Lunch Program.
Example of Savings:

The University of New Mexico tuition and fees for 15 to 18 credits for the fall 2017 semester was $3,661.

Let’s say a student takes 5 classes or 15 credits in one semester.

The cost per class would be $732.

One AP exam is typically equivalent to one college class (some are worth more).

The savings in this situation would be $638.
What is it like to take AP®?
# AP® Myths & Realities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Myth</th>
<th>Reality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AP courses are for students who always get good grades.</td>
<td>AP courses are for any students who are academically prepared and motivated to take college-level courses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP courses are too stressful.</td>
<td>It's no secret that AP courses are challenging. But the support you receive from your classmates and teachers can help you manage the work load.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don't think I will score high enough on the AP Exam to get college credit.</td>
<td>You don’t need to score a 5. Many colleges grant credit — and placement as well — based on a 3 or higher on an AP Exam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taking AP courses could hurt my GPA.</td>
<td>For every semester of an AP course you take we add .025 to your calculated GPA. This means a B in a course would equal 3.025 instead of just 3.0. Also, taking AP courses shows colleges that you’re willing to challenge yourself academically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I can’t take AP because no one has recommended me.</td>
<td>If you think you’re ready to take an AP course, then you’re ready to advocate for yourself — just talk to a teacher or counselor.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Next Steps: Help Your Student Make the Best Choices
Help your child prepare to talk to a teacher or counselor about AP. Here are some questions to encourage your child to think about:

What AP course is right for me?
Before you talk to a teacher or counselor, think about what interests you:
- Which courses do you enjoy most in school? In which subjects do you excel?
- What college majors are you considering? What careers excite you?

Ask your counselor or teacher the following questions:
- In which AP courses at our school am I likely to do well?
- Are there other courses that can help me succeed in AP or prepare me for college and careers?
- What steps do I need to take?
- What is our school’s enrollment deadline?
- May I speak with a student who has taken an AP course?
- Are there study groups or people who can offer help if I need it?
- What can I do next to help me prepare for AP?
AP®: Resources Worth Exploring for Students and Families

- AP information: [https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home](https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home)
- Personalized feedback, practice and college planning based on your PSAT/NMSQT® results: My College QuickStart™ [www.collegeboard.org/quickstart](http://www.collegeboard.org/quickstart)
- AP credit policy information from colleges and universities: [www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy](http://www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy)
- La Cueva High School AP sample syllabi [https://lacueva.aps.edu/HonorsAP](https://lacueva.aps.edu/HonorsAP)
Courses:

English Language and Composition (Mr. Sanchez)
English Literature and Composition (Ms. Bedeaux)
Fine Arts

Courses:
Art History
Music Theory (Ms. Green)
Modern and Classical Languages

Courses:
French Language and Culture (Ms. Rinaldi)
Spanish Language and Culture (Ms. Pino)
German Language and Culture (Ms. Gamble)
Science

Courses:
- Biology (Ms. Fordyce)
- Chemistry (Ms. Lara)
- Environmental Science (Mr. Spencer)
- Physics 1 and Physics 2: Algebra-based (Ms. Eddings)
Courses:
European History and World History (Mr. Neuser)
Macroeconomics (Mrs. Dannenbaum-Zufall)
United States Government and Politics (Mr. Freeman)
United States History (Mrs. Jenkins)
Human Geography (Mr. Timm)
Mathematics

Courses:
Calculus AB and Calculus BC (Ms. Conell)
Statistics (Mr. Ryan)
Mathematics

Courses: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XU35JHXctjU
AP Capstone

Courses: AP Seminar and Research
(Mrs. Soto and Mr. Sanchez)
Other AP Courses

Courses:
AP Psychology (Mr. Hamblin)
AP Computer Science Principles (Ms. Lozano)
AP Computer Science A (Ms. Lozano)