

Advanced Placement Course Offerings

The Advanced Placement program is a collaborative effort between motivated students, dedicated teachers, and committed high schools, colleges, and universities. Since its inception in 1955, the program has allowed millions of students to take college-level courses and exams and to earn college credit or placement while still in high school.

Most colleges and universities in the United States, as well as colleges and universities in twenty-one other countries, have an Advanced Placement policy granting incoming students credit, placement, or both on the basis of their AP Exam grades. Many of these institutions grant up to a full year of college credit to students who earn a sufficient number of qualifying AP grades.

Each AP course has a corresponding exam that participating schools worldwide administer in May. AP Exams contain multiple-choice questions and a free response section (either essay or problem-solving).

AP Exams represent the culmination of AP courses, and are thus an integral part of the program. As a result, many schools foster the expectation that students who enroll in an AP course will go on to take the corresponding AP Exam. Almost without exception, students in advanced placement courses at Hughson High School take the AP Exams.

The following advanced placement courses have been included in this document in the departmental areas to which they belong. They are repeated here to provide an easy-to-find overview of all advanced placement offerings.

Title of Course: **Advanced Placement Art History**
Target Audience: Students in grades 10-12
Prerequisites: Completion of or concurrent enrollment in World History
Hughson High School Graduation Requirement: No; applies toward elective credits
University/College Entrance Requirement: Yes – Subject Requirement: **f or g**
Course Description: The AP Art History curriculum is a survey of the art of the western world, with some attention also given to art that is “beyond the European tradition”. Students are encouraged to take the AP Art History exam in May of each year, and those who score successfully may receive college credit for the class. This AP class is an opportunity not only for the “committed and scholarly” student, but also for other students who would like to try a college class while still a high school student. This class is designed to give students a highly charged, college-level, scholarly program. This class is perhaps the best AP class for students who are new to the AP experience. It is a demanding course, yet one in which even sophomores can find success. It is helpful if students coming into this class have already studied “World History” as this will have prepared them for the chronological and political elements that give structure to the AP Art History curriculum.

Title of Course: **Advanced Placement Biology**
Target Audience: College preparatory students wishing to experience a college level course while in high school.
Prerequisites: Completion of biology and chemistry with a grade of C or better.
Hughson High School Graduation Requirement: Yes, meets the one year life science requirement.
University/College Entrance Requirement: Yes - also meets recommended additional year. Subject Requirement: **d or g**
Course Description: This course is designed to be the equivalent of a college introductory biology course usually taken by biology majors during their first year. AP Biology includes the topics regularly covered in a college biology course for majors and includes science as a process, evolution, energy transfer, continuity and change, relationship of structure to function, regulation, interdependence in nature, and science, technology, and society. This course aims to provide students with the conceptual framework, factual knowledge, and analytical skills necessary to deal critically with the rapidly changing science of biology. The types of labs completed by AP students are the equivalent of those done by college students. High School Anatomy/Physiology is helpful but not required.

Title of Course: **Advanced Placement Calculus**
Target Audience: College preparatory students wishing to experience a college level course while in high school.
Prerequisites: Completion of Math Analysis with a grade of C or better
Hughson High School Graduation Requirement: Yes; meets one year of the three year mathematics requirement.
University/College Entrance Requirement: Yes – also meets recommended additional year Subject Requirement: **c or g**
Course Description: Advanced Placement Calculus (AB) is a year long course which follows the nationally recognized AP curriculum for Calculus AB which includes the following three major topics: 1) functions, graphs and limits 2) derivatives and 3) integrals. Students will be preparing for and taking the AP Calculus AB exam in the spring.

Title of Course: **English 12 Advanced Placement Language/Composition**
Target Audience: College preparatory students wishing to experience a college level course while in high school.
Prerequisites: English 11 American Literature/Advanced Composition, or English 11 American Literature/Composition Honors and teacher recommendation

Hughson High School Graduation Requirement: Yes; one of the four required years
University/College Entrance Requirement: Yes – Subject Requirement: **b or g**
Course Description: Successful completion of this course and one preceding course for seniors will meet the state of California's content standards for 11th and 12th graders in the area of Reading/Language Arts. Seniors will focus on standards in reading, writing, written and oral English language conventions, and listening and speaking skills. Students will study chronologically through the literary period from the Anglo-Saxons to the modern world and will write fictional narratives, responses to literature, reflective compositions, historical investigative reports, job applications and resumes, and develop and present multimedia presentations. A variety of critical analyses, through composition will be produced throughout the year. Students in this course will read a greater variety of selections, write more frequently and with greater depth, quality, and rigor; and will work more independently than those enrolled in the English 12 British Literature/Advanced Composition course. Students will progress through the nationally recognized advanced placement curriculum to prepare for taking and passing the national advanced placement exam that is administered each spring.

Title of Course: **Advanced Placement United States History**
Target Audience: Students in grades eleven and twelve
Prerequisites: World History
Hughson High School Graduation Requirement: Yes; meets one year of the four year social science requirement.
University/College Entrance Requirement: Yes – Subject Requirement: **a or g**
Course Description: The AP program in United States history is designed to provide students with the analytic skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with the problems and materials in United States history. The program prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those made by full-year introductory college courses. Students will learn to assess historical materials – their relevance to a given interpretive program, their reliability, and their importance – and to weight the evidence and interpretations presented in historical scholarship. Students who take and pass the internationally administered AP exam will college credit.