

An aerial photograph of a dense evergreen forest, likely a spruce or fir forest, with many trees showing some yellowing or browning, possibly due to environmental factors or the season. The forest is very thick, with many thin tree trunks visible between the foliage.

The Advanced Placement Adventure

Broadneck High School

January 23, 2025

AP Course Overview: The Courses

The AP classroom is fundamentally different from the Honors classroom because of the National Exam, a comprehensive assessment given in May, assessing the student's knowledge and abilities for the entire school year.

The primary expectation is that an AP student signs up for and takes the National Exam. For this reason, the format and content of the class is modeled after the format and content of the National Exam.

AP English & Social Studies

● Test Format

Multiple-choice questions, short and long essays

● Class Format

At-home textbook reading, in-class individual reading and writing exercises

AP Math & Science

● Test Format

Multiple choice and FRQ - both calculator and non-calculator sections

● Class Format

At-home: lesson videos and practice exercises
In-class: note taking and practice exercises

AP Art & Music

● Test Format:

Aural/non-aural multiple choice
7 FRQs (aural dictation and part writing), perform sight singing

● Class Format:

In class listening exercises, musical dictation and aural skills, music theory skills development - pitch, rhythm, harmony, at-home practice

AP Course Overview: AP Classroom

The College Board provides AP teachers and students access to an online platform, called AP Classroom, that includes daily instructional videos, practice questions (from released National Exams) and other supports for students to work on as class assignments or outside of classroom hours.

The expectation is that students use these supports to supplement their in-class learning.

Reviewing

- **Daily videos** that review the content for each element of the Course and Exam Description, created by AP teachers around the world, to supplement learning about the content objectives

Practicing

- **Released questions** from previous National Exam questions may be assigned by teachers to allow students to practice the skills necessary to successfully complete an SAQ, LEQ or DBQ during in-class practices meant to build student capacity

Assessing

- **Released questions** from the previous National Exam questions allow students to assess their knowledge of the course material using questions that are of the same caliber as they will see on their own end-of-year exam.

AP Course Overview: The Student

While every AP course looks a little different, and every AP student comes from a different background and brings different skills to the table, there are certain common traits that help students maximize their success in an AP class.

The AP student's performance on the National Exam is measured against all global students taking the test, requiring a higher level of preparation than students taking a teacher-created or district-created assessment

Intrinsic Motivation

- **Students** should be motivated to go beyond the minimum requirements, including using Bruin Block time to get extra help, work outside of assigned class hours and collaborate with peers

Subject/Interest Alignment

- Students should challenge themselves in an academic content area they are interested in and will be passionate about so that they have the motivation to persist when they are challenged beyond their comfort zone

Preparation for Collegiate Rigor

- Students may need to work an hour outside of class for every hour they work in class, needing evenings and weekends to work and study for class assignments and a National Exam that qualify the student to get college credit

Benefits of Completing an AP course and Exam

“Preparing and taking an AP exam sharpens skills needed for the transition from high school to college. Research shows that students who take AP courses/exams have better college outcomes than peers and graduate on time.”

<https://blog.collegeboard.org/3-reasons-take-ap-exams>

“Three out of four AP students enrolled in a four-year college or university start school with some AP credit. This gives you the flexibility to change majors, pursue a second degree, or study abroad. By skipping introductory courses, you can free up time for courses you’re interested in and have the chance to graduate early.”

<https://blog.collegeboard.org/3-reasons-take-ap-exams>

Strengthens the transcript with the extra weight given to AP grades when calculating your GPA. When colleges review transcripts they may look for more rigorous courses and can see your academic performance from a national perspective.

AP Courses for All Grades

Starting with the Class of 2029: AP Capstone
Diploma

AP Capstone Seminar

AP Capstone Research (26-27 school year)

4 additional AP courses/exams

2-D Art and Design, 3-D Art and Design

**Computer Science Principles and
Computer Science A**

**English Language and Composition,
English Literature**

**Calculus AB, Calculus AB/BC,
Pre-Calculus, Statistics**

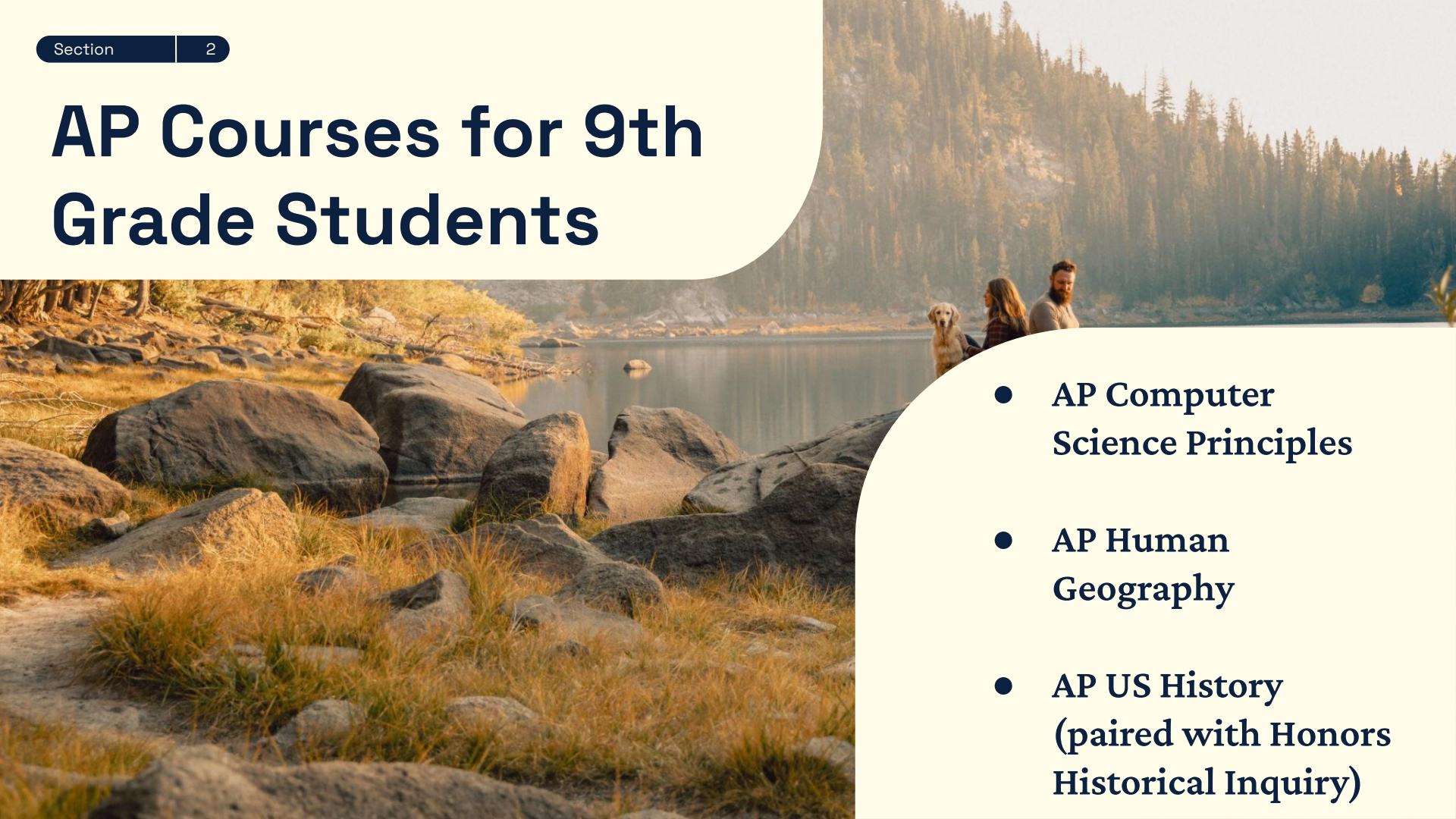
Music Theory

**Biology, Chemistry, Environmental
Science, Physics**

**African American Studies, European
History, Human Geography,
Macroeconomics, Microeconomics,
Psychology, US Government & Politics,
US History, World History (Modern)**

**Spanish Language and Culture, French
Language and Culture**

AP Courses for 9th Grade Students

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- AP Computer Science Principles
 - AP Human Geography
 - AP US History (paired with Honors Historical Inquiry)

AP Enrollment by grade

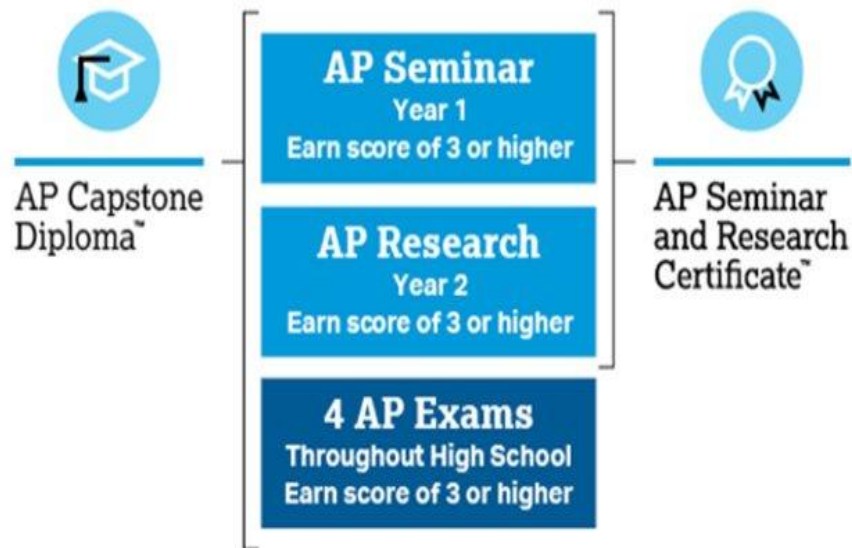
2024-2025
School Year

9th Grade	10th Grade	11th Grade	12th Grade
80/550 students 14.5%	120/550 students 21.8%	250/550 students 45.5%	300/550 students 54.5%

Maryland AP Option

- Number of Required AP Courses: 5
- Specific Courses Required:
 - At least 2 courses in the same content area AND at least 2 content areas included
- Course Content Areas:
 - English/Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Arts, Computer Sciences, World Languages
- Score Requirement:
 - 3 or higher on at least 3 AP exams AND a grade of C or higher in 5 AP courses

AP Capstone Diploma



Accommodations

Students with AACPS IEP/504 testing accommodations need to submit a College Board consent form (see Ms. Cosgrove) to begin the process of requesting testing supports provided by the College Board for AP, PSAT, and SAT testing.

Thank
you!

