



# What is Advanced Placement<sup>®</sup>?

Sylacauga High School



# Welcome

Sylacauga 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.



# Today's Agenda

- What are Advanced Placement® Courses?
- The Benefits
- AP® Exams
- What Is It Like to Take AP?
- Q & A

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# What Are Advanced Placement<sup>®</sup> Courses?



# Advanced Placement<sup>®</sup>: The Basics

- AP<sup>®</sup> courses are college-level courses offered in high school
- Courses reflect what is taught in top introductory college courses
- Students take **AP Exams** in May, 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<sup>®</sup> Courses

- **Arts:** Art History (ACCESS)
- **English:** English Language and Composition (11), English Literature and Composition (12)
- **History and Social Sciences:** United States History (10/11), United States Government and Politics (12), Psychology (ACCESS)
- **Mathematics and Computer Science:** Calculus AB (12), Computer Science Principles
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry

# AP<sup>®</sup> at Sylacauga High School

- 244- number of exams taken last year
- 43- number of qualifying scores
- 9- AP Scholars
  - 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.

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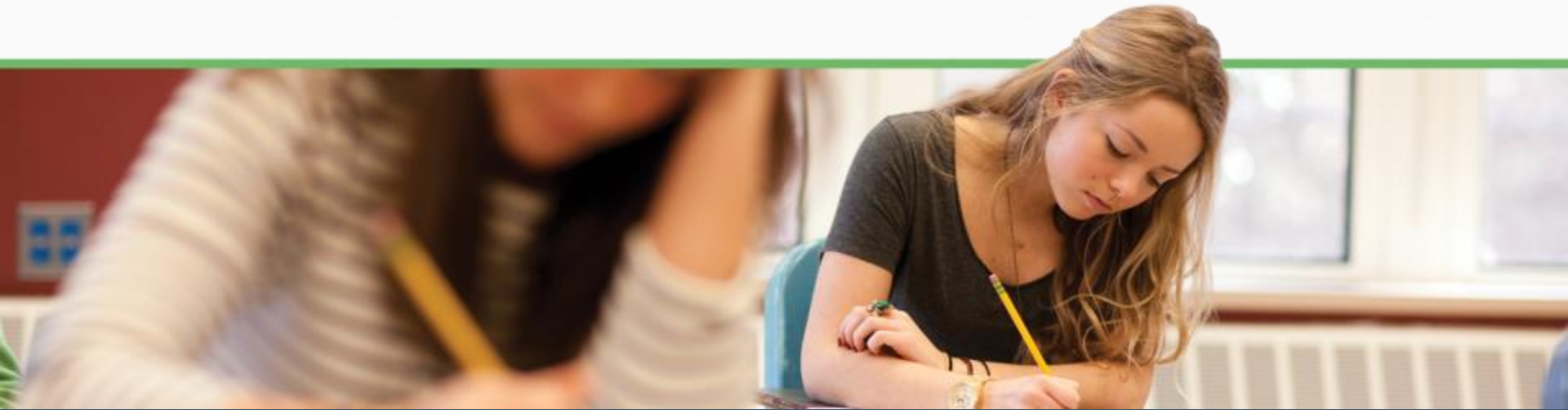
# AP<sup>®</sup>: The Benefits





# AP<sup>®</sup>: The Benefits

- Students learn rigorous college-level content and skills
- Taking AP is valued in the college admission process
- Opportunity to earn valuable credit and placement in college



# AP<sup>®</sup>: Skills & Advantages that Last a Lifetime

- Taking an AP course helps students build critical thinking skills, confidence, and the essential time management and study skills needed for success after high school.
- 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\*

*\*2009, The College Board, "The Relationship Between AP Exam Performance and College Outcomes"*

# AP<sup>®</sup> Helps Students Graduate on Time & Save Money

- Students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely to complete a college degree on time.\*
- Only 1 in 4 college students completes a bachelor's degree in 4 years.
- The average published tuition and fee price for full-time in-state students at public four-year colleges and universities is \$10,230 in 2018-19\*\*
- The average cost for in-state tuition for the state of Alabama is just over \$10,000 and the out-of-state tuition is just over \$20,000.\*\*

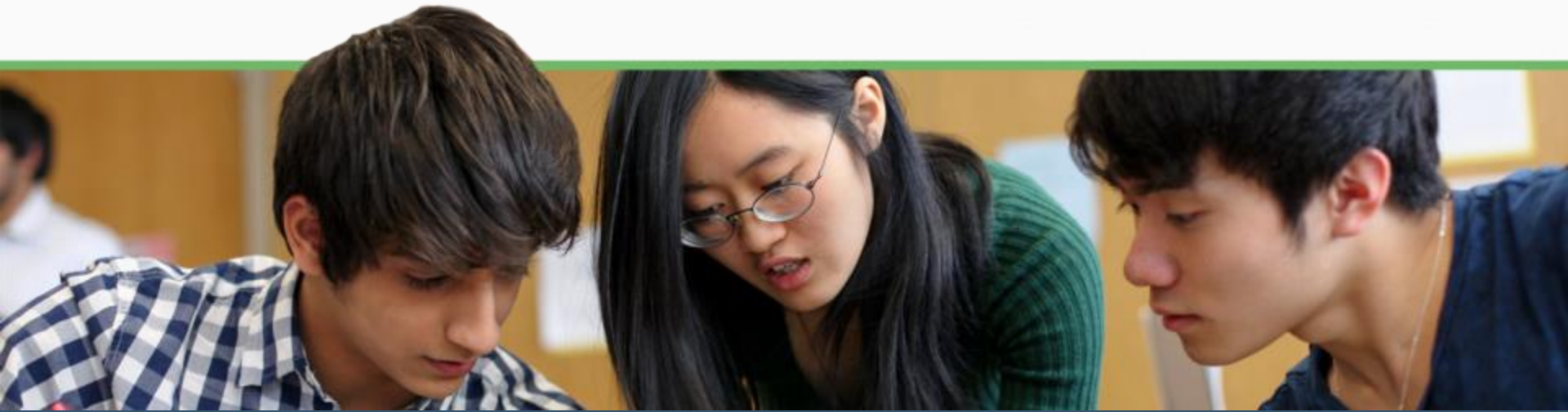
\*College Outcomes Comparisons by AP and Non-AP High School Experiences, *The College Board, 2008*

\*\**The College Board, Trends in College Pricing 2018*

# AP<sup>®</sup> 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



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AP<sup>®</sup> Exams



# AP<sup>®</sup> 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

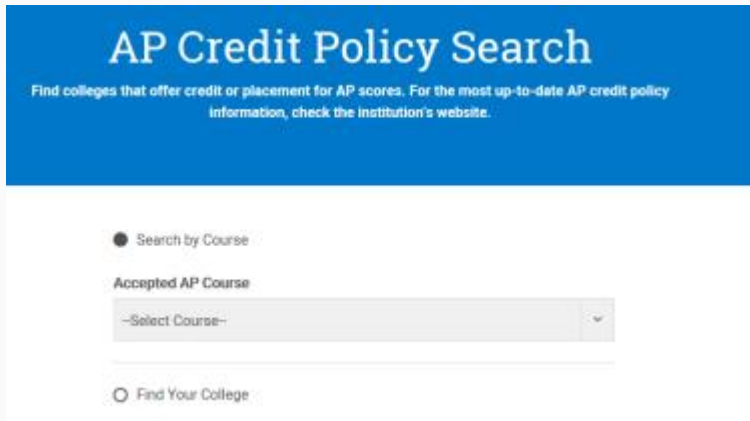


# AP<sup>®</sup> Exam Fees

- The exam fee for 2019- 2020 is \$94 per exam.
- This cost is offset by:
  - funds provided by the Board of Education
  - fee waivers through College Board for those students that are eligible for the Federal Free or Reduced Price Lunch Program.
- Invoices for Fall courses will be given to students in September and AP exam fees will be due by Oct. 31
- Invoices for Spring courses will be given to students in January and AP exam fees will be due by Mar. 2

# Credit and Placement Opportunities

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 <https://apstudents.collegeboard.org/>



The screenshot shows the 'AP Credit Policy Search' interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the title 'AP Credit Policy Search' and a subtitle: 'Find colleges that offer credit or placement for AP scores. For the most up-to-date AP credit policy information, check the institution's website.' Below the header, there are two search options: 'Search by Course' (selected with a radio button) and 'Find Your College' (unselected). Under 'Search by Course', there is a dropdown menu labeled 'Accepted AP Course' with the text '-Select Course-' and a small downward arrow. Below the dropdown, there is a horizontal line and a small text label 'Find Your College' with a radio button.

Search by course or college.

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 and the minimum score required



# AP<sup>®</sup> and our Higher Education Community

English Lang.- JSU (4), ASU (3), AU (4), UA (4), CACC (3)

English Lit.- JSU (4), Huntingdon (3), Jeff State (3), Troy (3)

Biology- Samford (3), UA (4), AU (3), UAB (4)

Chemistry- UAH (3), Spring Hill (3), CACC (3)

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What is it like to take AP<sup>®</sup>?



# AP<sup>®</sup> Myths & Realities

Myth	Reality
AP courses are for students who always get good grades.	AP courses are for any students who are academically prepared and motivated to take college-level courses.
AP courses are too stressful.	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.
I don't think I will score high enough on the AP Exam to get college credit.	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.
I can't take AP because no one has recommended me.	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.

# Our School Offers Support for AP<sup>®</sup> Students

Our school offers these resources and programs to support our AP students:

- *College Board Resources- progress checks, unit guides, question bank*
- *Saturday Study Sessions*
- *Mock Exams*
- *Office Hours*
- *Tutoring*

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# Questions and Answers

