



An Introduction to the Advanced Placement Program®

Westmont High School

Welcome

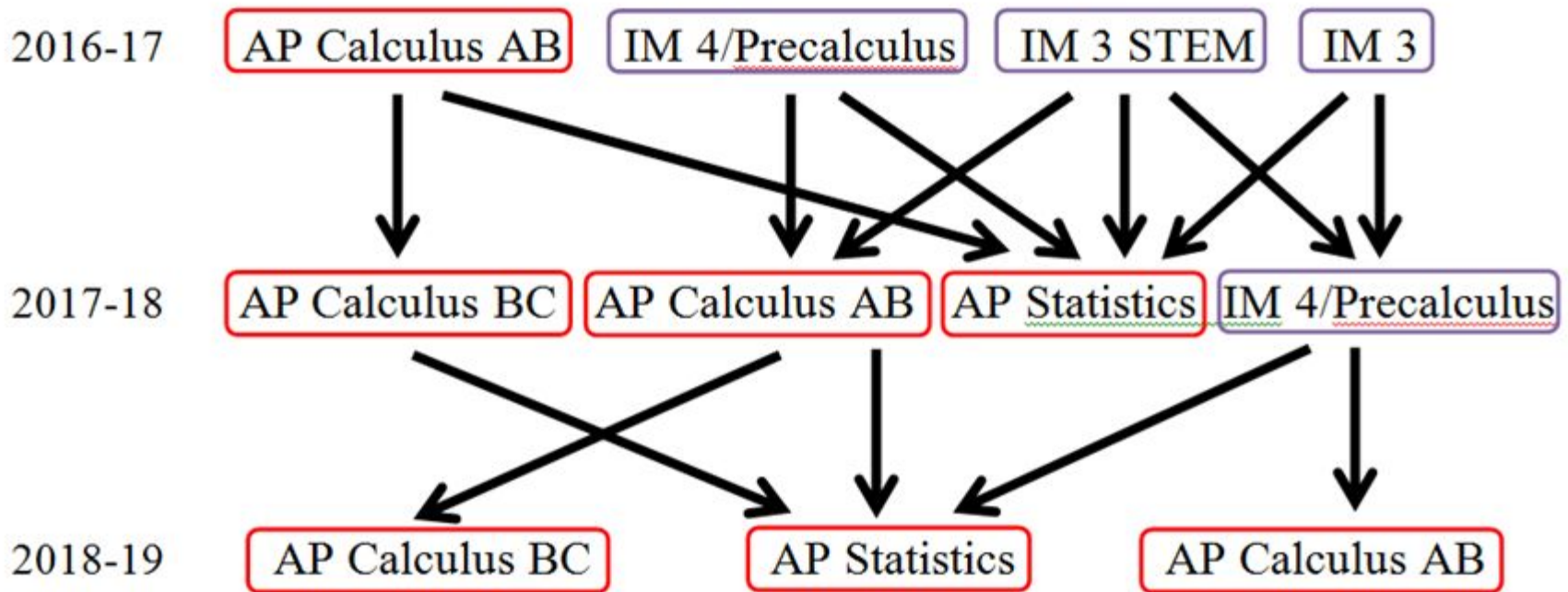
Westmont is committed to every student's success.

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



AP Math Pathways

Current Recommended Pathways for AP Mathematics at Westmont High School





What Are Advanced Placement[®] Courses?

Advanced Placement[®] : The Basics

- AP[®] courses are college-level courses offered in high school
- Students take **AP Exams** 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

- **Arts:** Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio
- **English:** English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition
- **History and Social Sciences:** Psychology, United States Government and Politics, United States History, World History
- **Mathematics and Computer Science:** Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Computer Science A, Statistics
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics 1, Physics 2
- **World languages:** French Language and Culture, Spanish Language

AP[®] at Westmont

School Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total AP Students	269	266	351	315	354
Number of Exams	546	577	650	594	697
AP students with Scores 3+	192	191	242	232	274
% of Total AP Students with Scores 3+ % Averages for California	71.4 64.5	71.8 63.5	68.9 64.3	73.7 63.6	77.4 62.5

AP[®]

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



AP[®]

AP[®] Exams

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



AP[®] Exam Fees

- The exam fee for 2017 is \$93 per exam.
- Assistance is available for eligible students with financial need as determined by “Free & Reduced Lunch” status.



Next Steps: The Process

Important AP Dates and Meetings

- AP Informational Meetings are Jan 30 - Feb 3.
 - A schedule of these meetings will be posted on School Loop, the website, the bulletin and with the AP Teachers.

AP Commitment

ADVANCED PLACEMENT / HONORS COMMITMENT FORM

Westmont High School 2017-2018

Student _____ Student ID _____ Grade in 2017-2018 10th 11th 12th

Taking an AP course is a stronger predictor of success in college than test scores or grade point average. Colleges consistently admit students prepared to manage a rigorous schedule. Use this form as a guide to determine your commitment to AP/Honors for your academic schedule.

Read and initial the following AP/Honors Statements:

For AP and Honors Classes:

___ Westmont exercises a "No Drop" policy for all courses, including AP or Honors. Commitment is a key concept that AP/Honors courses are designed to develop in students by teaching the necessary skills for surviving the academic rigors of college. Students have until _____ of the current school year (2016/2017) to request a course change out of an AP/Honors class. There is no "trial period" for an AP/Honors class once the course has begun.

___ Certain AP/Honors courses require a mandatory assignment over the summer break. Failure to complete the summer assignment will not be a reason to remove a student from the course. In addition, failure to complete the summer assignment may irrevocably affect a grade at the start of the school year. It is the student's responsibility to seek out this information from the current AP teacher.

___ I realize I am expected to take the AP exams given in May 2017 as validation of the Advanced Placement curriculum. If I cannot afford the exam(s), the school will make efforts to support me.

___ AP/Honors students are expected to be an active participant in class and in their education. This includes, but is not limited to, asking questions during class, forming study groups with their peers, seeking assistance during study hall or by appointment, frequently checking their grade progress, and using outside resources which aid in the understanding and comprehension of course material.

___ AP/Honors courses must be viewed as an academic priority. School or outside activities, such as sports or work, are not justified reasons for not completing work in a course or missing a class.

AP/Honors Course Request

AP/Honors Class Title _____ Date of Lunch Meeting _____

AP Teacher For This Course: _____ (Print Name)

___ I have spoken with/given class handouts to this student for informational purposes only.

Teacher Signature: _____ Date _____

Student Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date _____

Current Teacher Recommendation(Print Name): _____

Teacher should be from same subject area. If it is AP World History, ask any of your teachers.

___ Recommend ___ Recommend with reservation ___ I do NOT recommend

**Please return this form to your guidance counselor by
Wednesday-February 8, 2017**

Students who do not return this form by 2/8/17 will be removed from AP/Honors classes they have signed up for. Taking two or more AP/Honors Classes? Please See reverse side for additional forms

- Requires that you acknowledge that an AP course is a year-long class, and that both the student and parent sign, indicating that both understand the commitment the student is making.
- Requires that you talk to the teacher who currently teaches the course in order to understand what will be expected of you.
- Forms available in Student Services Center
- Due to Counselors no later than **February 8th, 2017**
 - Any student who does not make the February 8th deadline will be removed from any AP class(es) they have signed up for.

AP[®]: Resources Worth Exploring for Students and Families

- AP information: apstudent.collegeboard.org
- College and Career Planning: bigfuture.org
- Personalized feedback, practice and college planning based on your PSAT/NMSQT[®] results: My College QuickStart[™]
www.collegeboard.org/quickstart
- AP credit policy information from colleges and universities:
www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy