



HKIS HS Advanced Placement Philosophy

As with all courses in the high school, the primary goal we have for our students is to provide opportunities that stimulate self-motivated learning, respect and responsibility and collaboration. Advanced Placement (AP) courses extend these opportunities by providing rigorous, college-level courses for students with a high level of motivation and a deep passion for learning. We believe that any student who is motivated to take on this level of challenge should have the opportunity to take AP courses providing course prerequisites and/or teacher recommendations have been met.

HKIS AP Policies

- Students in Grade 10 are counseled to take a maximum of one AP credit while students in Grades 11 and 12 may take up to three (3) AP credits in an academic year. Any exceptions would come through a counselor to the Associate Principal for Teaching & Learning.
- All students enrolled in an AP course must take the associated AP Exam in May.
- A student may take an AP Exam even if not enrolled in the course at HKIS.
- A student who receives a “1” on an AP Exam will be required to meet with their counselor, the Associate Principal for Teaching & Learning and possibly the AP instructor to be considered for enrolment in any other AP course.

Responsibilities of our school community

Students will:

- Seek a balanced course of study by familiarizing themselves with AP course prerequisites and consulting with teachers and counselors to evaluate the necessary commitment to the course prior to enrolling.
- Demonstrate consistency in the Approaches to Learning categories of Self Motivated Learning, Collaboration and Respect & Responsibility.
- Commit themselves to being present and completing both formative and summative work in preparation for class.



- Manage time well and apply effort required for success in the course and on the exam.
- Engage in the course with the intent to reach his/her fullest potential.

Teachers will:

- Make course recommendations based on coursework and Approaches to Learning marks in prior courses.
- Support students in transition to the rigor of AP coursework.
- Adhere to College Board requirements and fulfill all course Standards and curriculum.
- Offer exceptional instruction at a college level and pace.
- Communicate and give feedback to students and parents on student progress.
- Continue professional development with AP content, strategies and exam analysis.

Parents will:

- Become familiar with AP course requirements at course registration and advise their child to keep a balanced schedule.
- Monitor student progress throughout the course and encourage their child's resilience, passion, strengths and intellectual independence when coursework becomes challenging.
- Speak with their child first and then the teacher if there are concerns.

Benefits of the AP Program

- The opportunity to take college-level courses in high school which will AID IN DEMONSTRATING to college admissions officers rigor in your high school program.
 - AP courses are modeled upon comparable college courses. College and university faculty play a vital role in ensuring that AP courses align with college-level standards. Each AP course concludes with a college-level exam developed and scored by college and university faculty members as well as experienced AP teachers.
- A high degree of choice with 27 AP courses currently being offered at HKIS:
 - Capstone Program



- Seminar, Research Project
- English
 - English Language & Composition, English Literature & Composition
- Math
 - Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics
- Modern Languages
 - French Language & Culture, Spanish Language & Culture
 - *Chinese Language & Culture is also an option for Mandarin students off campus
- Science
 - Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics I, Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism, Physics C: Mechanics
- Social Sciences
 - Art History, Comparative Government & Politics, European History, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Psychology, US History, US Government & Politics, World History
- Technology
 - Computer Science Principles, Computer Science A
- Visual Art
 - Studio Art: Drawing, 2D Design, 3D Design
- Hard work in the class and success on the exams can lead to recognition both in high school and in college or university.
 - In more than 90% of US four-year colleges, as well as many institutions in more than 60 other countries, an AP Exam score of 3 or higher often results in credit, advanced placement or both. Each college and university makes its own decisions about awarding credit and placement. Most have a written policy spelling out things like the minimum required score to earn credit for a given AP Exam, the amount of credit awarded and how credits are applied.
 - [Explore college AP credit policies](#)



- AP Scholar Awards - The AP Program offers several Scholar Awards to recognize high school students who have demonstrated college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. In addition to receiving an award certificate, the student's achievement is acknowledged on any grade report that they send to college/universities the following fall.
 - AP Scholar. Granted to students who receive grades of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.
 - AP Scholar with Honor. Granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.
 - AP Scholar with Distinction. Granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these.
 - AP International Diploma. Granted to students who receive a 3 or higher on 5 or more exams. Courses must include a global perspective including a world language and culture course, one global perspective course, one math/science course and one other from a non-English course.
 - AP Seminar and Research Certificate. Granted to students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both AP Seminar and AP Research.
 - AP Capstone Diploma. Granted to students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing.
 - AP with WE Service Component. Granted to students in AP courses working with the charity WE who have successfully completed a service-learning component.
- Please visit the AP site for students and parents for more:
<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap>