



An Introduction to the Advanced Placement Program®

Shawnee Mission South

Advanced Placement[®]: The Basics

- AP[®] courses are college-level courses offered in high school
- A score of 3 or higher on an AP Exam can typically earn students college credit and/or placement into advanced courses in college
- Students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely to complete a college degree on time.* Graduating in four years represents a significant savings on the cost of college and allows students an opportunity to pursue a double major, move to upper-level courses sooner, or gain time to study and travel abroad.
- Only 1 in 4 college students completes a bachelor's degree in 4 years.
- The average cost of college for a single year is \$23,410** for in-state schools (tuition, fees, room/board, misc. expenses), so graduating on time represents huge savings.

Credit and Placement Opportunities

Although colleges and universities are responsible for setting their own credit and placement policies, AP scores offer a recommendation on the qualifications of a student for receiving college credit and advanced placement. The College Board offers information about AP credit at thousands of college and universities at www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy.

The screenshot shows the 'AP Credit Policy Info' page on the CollegeBoard website. The page has a blue header with the CollegeBoard logo and navigation links. Below the header, there are tabs for 'College Board Tools', 'Wait for College', 'Find a College', 'Apply to College', and 'Pay for College'. The main content area is titled 'AP Credit Policy Info' and 'Advanced Placement Program'. It includes a search bar labeled 'Find colleges and universities with AP credit policy information'. Below the search bar, there is a list of subjects: AP Calculus & Stats, AP Computer Science A, AP English Language & Composition, AP English Literature & Composition, AP European History, AP French Language & Composition, AP Human Geography, AP Music Theory, AP Physics 1, AP Physics 2, AP Psychology, AP Spanish Language, AP Spanish Literature, AP Statistics, AP U.S. History, AP World History: European, AP World History: Modern, and AP World History: Practice Exam. To the left of the search bar, there is a sidebar with links for 'AP', 'About AP', 'Registering', 'Preparing', 'Calendar & Fees', 'Exam Day', 'Exam Grades', 'Exam Scores', 'Contact Us', 'Subjects', and 'AP Central'. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with links for 'Site Map', 'Contact Us', 'About Us', 'Press', 'Careers', 'Join Us', 'Compliance', 'Terms of Use', and 'Privacy Policy'. The TRUSTe logo is also visible in the bottom right corner.

- Search by school name or alphabetically
- 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

A horizontal band with a green gradient overlay containing a photograph of three students in a classroom setting. One student is looking towards the camera, while the others are looking down or away.

AP[®] Exams at SMS

Our AP[®] Courses

- **Shawnee Mission South offers 26 Advanced Placement Courses and Exams.** Over 400 AP tests were administered at Shawnee Mission South last year to about 250 students.
- **Arts:** Music Theory, Studio Art
- **English:** English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition
- **History and Social Sciences:** European History, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, 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, Physics 1: Algebra-based
- **World languages:** French Language and Culture, Spanish Language and Culture

Registration

- The exam fee for 2015 is \$98 per exam and assistance is available for eligible students with demonstrated financial need.
- Registration will be online through Total Registration and will run from February 1 to March 1. The link is www.TotalRegistration.net/AP/172772, and will be posted on the Google Classroom for your graduating class.
- Late Registration will be available from March 2-7 for an additional late fee of \$15 per student (not test).



AP Dates

- It is very important that you check the exam date for your requested exam. Exams are given according to a VERY rigid schedule. Please check family, sports, and personal calendars for conflicts.
- AP Tests will be given during the first two full weeks of May. Exam *times and dates* are fixed. Morning exams begin promptly at 8:00 am and afternoon exams start at 12:00 pm. All locations will be announced closer to test time. Most will be at South, but some smaller tests may be held at common sites around the district.



National AP Test Dates/Times

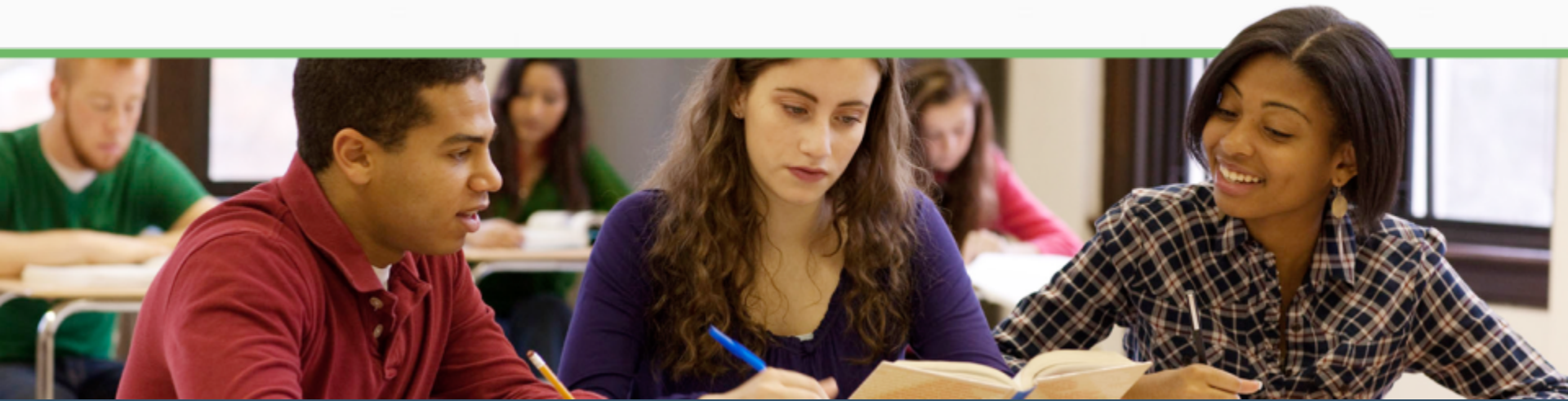
Week 1	May 1	May 2	May 3	May 4	May 5
8 am	Chemistry	-Computer Sci -Spanish	English Literature (12)	US Government	US History
Noon	Psychology	Physics	Physics 2	US History	

Week 2	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12
8 am	-Biology -Music Theory	Calculus AB Calculus BC	English Language (11)	World History	-Human Geography -Microecon
Noon		French	Macroecon	Statistics	-Latin -European History

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



A horizontal band with a green gradient overlay containing a photograph of several students in a classroom setting, looking at their work.

Additional Resources

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

Students & Parents ... In Their Own Words

[An AP teacher talks about her high expectations for her students](#)

[AP Program: Turning Curiosity into a Science](#)

[Karl describes AP classes as a glimpse into what college is like](#)

[The Value of AP for Latino Students \(in Spanish\)](#)

[Teachers recognize AP student achievements](#)

[AP Program: Creativity Makes A Mark](#)