

Understanding AP



BENEFITS & EXPECTATIONS

OLENTANGY LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL

MARCH 2, 2010

Understanding AP



- **What is AP?**
- Is your child looking for a challenge in his/her education? S/he may want to take an Advanced Placement Program[®] course.
- Advanced Placement courses give students an opportunity to take rigorous, college-level classes in a supportive, high school environment.

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- **AP Exams**

- At the conclusion of an AP course, students will take the corresponding AP Exam. AP Exams are two- to three-hour exams, given in May, made up of multiple-choice and free-response (essay) questions. They are graded on a scale of 1 to 5, with 3 considered a qualifying score. There is an exam fee of \$90. Some students are eligible for a reduced exam fee. Please contact Carrie Reis, AP Coordinator, with questions.

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Current AP Courses at Liberty

- AP Literature & Composition
- AP Language & Composition
- AP Calculus AB
- AP Calculus BC
- AP Statistics
- AP Music Theory
- AP Art History
- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Physics
- AP Environmental Science (NEW)
- AP German
- AP Spanish
- AP American Government & Politics
- AP U.S. History
- AP European History
- AP Macroeconomics
- AP Microeconomics
- AP Psychology

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- **Why Participate?**

- AP can change a student's life. Through college-level AP courses, one can enter a universe of knowledge that might otherwise remain unexplored in high school.
- By earning a 3, 4, or 5 on an AP Exam, there is the opportunity to earn credit or advanced standing at many of the nation's colleges and universities.

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- **Why Participate?**
- Gain the Edge in College Preparation
 - ✓ Get a head start on college-level work
 - ✓ Improve writing skills and sharpen problem-solving techniques
 - ✓ Develop the study habits necessary for tackling rigorous coursework

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- **Why Participate?**
- Stand out in the College Admissions Process
 - ✓ Demonstrate maturity and readiness for college
 - ✓ Show willingness to take the most rigorous courses available
 - ✓ Emphasize commitment to academic excellence

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- **Why Participate?**

- Broaden Intellectual Horizons

- ✓ Explore the world from a variety of perspectives
- ✓ Study subjects in greater depth and detail
- ✓ Assume the responsibility of reasoning, analyzing, and understanding

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- **Setting Students Up for Success**
- Things to Consider:
 - ✓ Interest
 - ✓ Aptitude
 - ✓ Responsibility
 - ✓ Work Load
 - ✓ Summer Assignment

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- **Setting Students Up for Success**
- Interest

AP courses should be taken if there is a sincere interest in the subject. Parents should guide their child(ren) to select AP courses that play to their strengths and interests.

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- **Setting Students Up for Success**
- Aptitude

Teacher recommendations have been made based upon observed performance of students in prerequisite or preceding classes to AP courses and standardized test scores. While not the only factor to consider, these recommendations should be weighed heavily when deciding to enroll in an AP course.

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- **Setting Students Up for Success**
- Responsibility

Students are expected to actively participate in their AP class(es), and to take on a greater responsibility for their own learning. AP teachers strive to help their students become more independent learners in preparation for success in college.

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- **Setting Students Up for Success**
- Workload

AP courses are more demanding than regular high school courses. Most AP classes are comparable to first-year college courses, so they aren't easy, but they aren't impossible either.

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- **Setting Students Up for Success**
- Summer Assignment

All AP courses at Liberty High School require the completion of a summer assignment prior to beginning the school year. Please consider how the assignment(s) will fit in or compete with summer plans when selecting which courses and how many to take.

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- **Universities' AP Credit Policies:**

Each college or university has its own policy, which is available on the CollegeBoard website:

www.collegeboard.com/ap/creditpolicy

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- **Thank you for coming!**

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact Carrie Reis, Assistant Principal and AP Coordinator:

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