

Pirate M&A

MAGNET AP

Everything you need
to know about taking
AP classes at



What are AP classes?

Advance Placement classes are college-level classes taken in high school which teach curriculum and standards laid out by the College Board (the same people who administer the SAT). AP classes are assessed at the end of the year with an internationally given AP test. The achievement represented by these internationally recognized courses are an excellent way for students to stand out from their peers in the college application process. They also are a great choice for students who want to challenge themselves academically.

Are AP classes hard?

AP classes are college-level classes, so they are challenging and rigorous. However, our AP teachers have designed a program that provides our students with all the support and tools they need to succeed in class. You get all the rigor and challenge of college, but with all of the built-in supports of high school.

Do I have to take the AP test at the end of the year?

Yes. The school pays money to the College Board for the test, so all students are required to sit the AP test for the classes they have taken.

So what happens if I don't pass the AP test – do I fail the class?

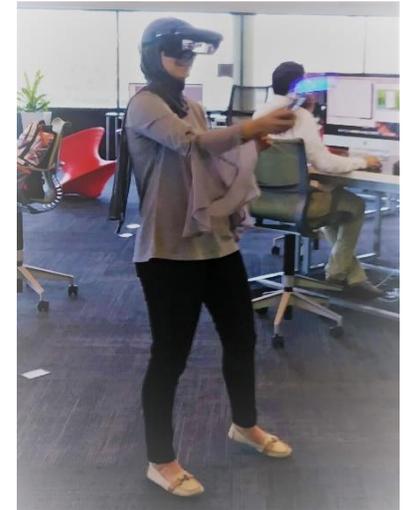
Not at all. The grade you get on your report cards and on your high school transcript is assigned by your teacher for your performance in class assignments and tests. The AP test scores are separate and come out in July, after your grades for the year are finalized. It is then up to you to decide whether to add the test scores to your transcript when applying to colleges.

Is it true you can get college credit for passing the AP test?

Yes you can, but it does depend on the college. Each institution has its own AP course credit policy as to whether they will give you college credit for passing an AP test. You can check a college's AP class policy on the College Board's AP Website¹. For example, The University of Florida will accept a score of 3 on the AP English Language class as credit for class ENC 1101. However, the University of Miami will only accept a score of 4 or higher.

Can anyone take AP classes?

AP classes are open to any student who is prepared for the demands and rigor of the course load, although some classes do have prerequisites. For example, it is recommended that students are either enrolled in or have already passed Algebra 2 in order to take AP Physics, while AP Calculus requires the successful completion of Pre-calculus. Speak to your guidance counselor for more information.



AP Research Student checking out VR technology during a field trip to Florida Tech

Why take AP classes at Palm Bay Magnet High School?

There are many reasons to take AP Classes. The Princeton Review² summarizes 5 reasons as follows;

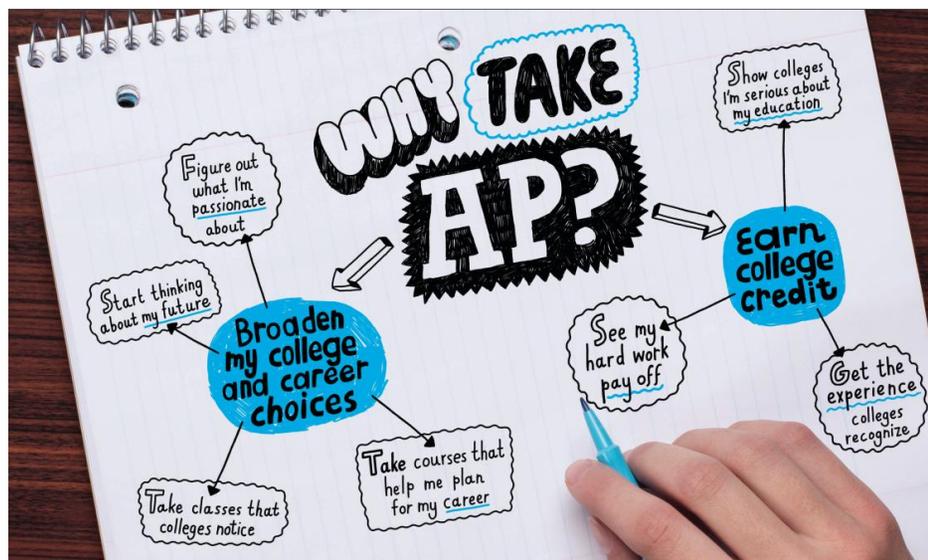
Prepare for College: AP classes will help you prepare for the rigor of college classes.

Strengthen your Transcript: AP classes are weighted higher than general classes at Palm Bay Magnet High School. Being successful in AP classes can give a big boost to your GPA!

Rise to the Top of the Pile: Many colleges look for good grades and academic rigor when selecting candidates for admission, especially in college prep courses like AP classes³. Taking rigorous AP classes demonstrates that you like a challenge and are ready for college level learning.

Get a Head Start: As mentioned, because some colleges will give credit for high AP test scores, you could save time (and tuition money!) when you get to college.

Study what you love: Because of the multiple AP class offerings at Palm May Magnet High School, you can continue to study a course that you enjoy, or a subject you find interesting and want to explore deeper.



What AP classes are offered at Palm Bay Magnet High School?

Palm Bay Magnet High School offers multiple AP Classes. A list of classes offered along with a description of each class is on the following page.

What AP Programs are offered at Palm Bay Magnet High School?

Palm Bay Magnet High School offers three AP programs:

AP Capstone Diploma: The highly prestigious AP Capstone Diploma is awarded by the College Board and is internationally recognized for students who pass four AP classes and exams in addition to the two AP Capstone classes – AP Seminar and AP Research.

AP Capstone Certificate: This certificate is awarded to students who earn a 3 or higher in both AP Seminar and AP Research, regardless of their enrollment in any other AP courses.

AP Diploma: The AP Diploma is issued by the school board of Brevard County for students who successfully complete six AP classes in any three different areas (Arts, English, Social Sciences, Math, Sciences, Languages, and Capstone/Interdisciplinary). Successful candidates of the AP Diploma will have the privilege of wearing a silver sash over their gowns at graduation.

What do I do next if I want to sign up for AP classes or would like to know if an AP class is right for me?

You can speak to your guidance counselor about enrolling in AP classes. You can also speak directly with the teacher of the individual class in which you are interested, who can help steer you in the right direction.

*We look forward to seeing
you in class!*

¹<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement/search-credit-policies>

²<https://www.princetonreview.com/college-advice/ap-classes>

³https://www.nacacnet.org/globalassets/documents/publications/research/2018_soca/soca18.pdf

AP COURSE OFFERINGS AT



INTERDISCIPLINARY

(Required for the AP Capstone Diploma)

AP Seminar: Investigate real-world topics of your choosing from multiple different perspectives. Learn to collect and analyze information with accuracy and precision, evaluate it for credibility, and develop arguments based on facts and effectively communicate them.

AP Research: Design, plan, and conduct a year-long, research-based investigation to address a research question of interest to you. Learn and apply research methods and practices to address a real-world topic of your choosing.

ART

AP Studio Art Program: The AP Studio Art Program consists of three portfolio exams—**2-D Design**, **3-D Design**, and **Drawing**—corresponding to the college foundation courses. Portfolios allow flexibility of coursework with guidance to produce college-level quality, artistic investigation, and breadth of work. Be an informed and critical decision-maker as you develop a portfolio that is personal to your individual talents and interests, while demonstrating mastery of design principles. Explore your creativity and become an independent thinker in your contributions to art and culture

AP Music Theory: Practice and develop musical skills that will help you build your understanding of music composition and music theory while developing your music vocabulary through class discussion and written analysis of listening selections.

ENGLISH

English Language and Composition: Strengthen the effectiveness of your writing through close reading and frequent practice with applying rhetorical strategies, analyzing information from source texts, and writing arguments. Become a critical reader of predominantly nonfiction works, including

expository, argumentative, analytical, and personal texts from various authors and time periods.

English Literature and Composition: Explore literary works from several different genres and periods. Learn to read critically as you experience great literary works, interpret those texts, and evaluate their quality and artistic achievement.



*AP English
Literature
students reading
Shakespeare's
Othello*

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Human Geography: Study the distribution, processes, and effects of the human population on our planet. Learn how to use and interpret maps, data sets, geographic models, GIS, aerial photographs, and satellite images.

Macroeconomics: Explore concepts such as measures of economic performance, macroeconomic theory and policies, and international economics. Learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts.

Microeconomics: Become familiar with the cost-benefit analysis that is the “economic way of thinking”. Understand smaller segments of the economy, including consumers and producers, their interaction in output and resource markets, and the impact of government.

Comparative Government & Politics: The course aims to illustrate the rich diversity of political life, to show available institutional alternatives, to explain differences in policy outcomes and to communicate the importance of global political and economic changes. The following countries will be used for analysis: Great Britain, China, Mexico, Russia, Iran and Nigeria.

United States Government & Politics: Explore U.S. foundational documents, Supreme Court decisions, and other texts and visuals to gain an understanding of the relationships and interactions among political institutions, processes, and behaviors that characterize the U.S. Constitutional system.

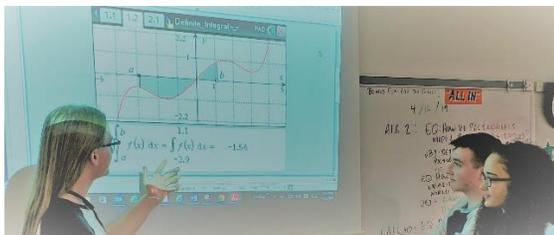
Psychology: Explore how psychologists use research methods and critical analysis to explore human behavior. Discuss how biological, cognitive, and cultural factors converge to facilitate acquisition, development, and use of language.

US History: Explore events of U.S. history through the use and analysis of documents, images, cartoons, quantitative data, and other primary sources. Develop an understanding of major themes in U.S. history, including American identity, economic and social life, political change and continuity, and the U.S. role in the world.

World History: Study the cultural, economic, political, and social developments that have shaped the world from c. 1200 CE to the present. You'll analyze texts, visual sources, and other historical evidence and write essays expressing historical arguments.

MATH AND COMPUTER SCIENCES

Calculus AB: Learn problem solving methods that you can apply to real-world problems involving theorems, definitions, and functions represented in different ways. *Also Available – AP Calculus BC (2nd year AP Calculus)*



*AP Calculus
AB Students
collaborating
while problem
solving*

Statistics: Explore concepts such as methodology and inferences through small group discussion and activities. Design surveys and experiments, gather and analyze data numerically and graphically, and apply inferential statistics to draw conclusions for a population.

Computer Science Principles: Understand how computing and technology influence the world around you. Learn how to creatively address real-world issues while using the same tools and processes that artists, writers, computer scientists, and engineers use to bring ideas to life.

SCIENCES

Physics 1: Develop scientific critical thinking and reasoning skills through inquiry based learning while exploring topics such as Newtonian mechanics (including rotational and gravitational motion); work, energy, and power; mechanical waves and sound; and introductory, simple electronic circuits. *Also Available – AP Physics C: Mechanics (Calculus Based Physics)*

Biology: Learn about the core scientific principles, theories, and processes governing living organisms, biological systems, and natural phenomena.

Chemistry: Learn about the fundamental concepts of chemistry such as structure and states of matter, intermolecular forces, reactions, and how to use chemical calculations to solve problems.



*Inquiry based learning in an
AP Physics 1 class*

WORLD LANGUAGES AND CULTURE

Spanish Language and Culture: Build your proficiency with authentic materials, including films, news broadcasts, newspaper or magazine articles, and contemporary literature. Integrate the communicative competencies you've developed in previous courses to become a more effective communicator.