



ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NO: 4320

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CATEGORY: **Instruction, Curriculum Design**

EFFECTIVE: **1-29-62**

SUBJECT: **Advanced Placement Courses**

REVISED: **4-16-2001**

A. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. To outline administrative procedures governing selection, application and registration of students for advanced placement courses.
2. **Related Procedures:**
 Enrollment of students in community college courses 4322
 Classroom grouping practices and counseling procedures 6020

B. LEGAL AND POLICY BASIS

1. **Reference:** Board policy: F-1500, F-2000, F-2200, F-2550, F-3300, F-7000, F-7100.

C. GENERAL

1. **Originating Office.** Suggestions or questions concerning this procedure should be directed to the Gifted and Talented Education Program Office, Institute for Learning.
2. The advanced placement (AP) program, established for students who are academically prepared for college-level work, includes high school courses in science, English, fine arts, world languages, math, computer science, and social studies.
3. Eligibility for each of the courses listed in C.2. is based upon the student's meeting specific prerequisites (C.7.).
4. Students not meeting prerequisites for a given advanced placement course, but who believe they could achieve successfully in that course, should consult counselors or site administrators (Procedure 6020).
5. **Responsibilities**
 - a. **Principal** provides an opportunity for all potentially qualified students to enroll in AP courses.
 - b. **Teachers** encourage qualified students to apply for AP courses.
 - c. **Counselors** program qualified students for AP courses.

6. **General criteria for determining eligibility** include demonstrated competency in college-level skills, such as reading, writing and mathematics; general academic achievement; results of the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT); subject-area achievement; motivation; and teacher recommendations.

7. **Specific Prerequisites for Advanced Placement Courses**

a. **Advanced Placement English Literature and Composition 1-2** and **Advanced Placement Language and Composition 1-2**. Provide instruction in language, literary and rhetorical analysis, and composition for the highest achieving students in grades 11-12. These courses prepare students for the advanced placement examinations "English Literature and Composition" and "English Language and Composition," respectively. Prerequisites for enrollment are:

- (1) Demonstrated readiness for college-level reading and writing.
- (2) Recommendations of English teachers.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

b. **Advanced Placement Computer Science A 1-2** and **Advanced Placement Computer Science AB 1-2**. Provide instruction in topics comparable to those of a first-year course offered in college and university computer science departments. Topics normally would be covered in two semesters of college-level computer science coursework. These courses prepare students for the advanced placement examinations "Computer Science A," and "Computer Science AB." Prerequisites for enrollment are:

- (1) Computer Science 1-2.
- (2) Algebra 1-2, and Geometry 1-2, *or* Advanced Math 1-2 and Advanced Math 3-4.
- (3) Recommendation of AP computer science instructor.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an AP computer science instructor, counselor, or vice principal.

- c. **Advanced Placement Music Theory 1-2.** Provides instruction in musical structure; harmonic analysis, vocal and instrumental forms, techniques, and styles; score reading; and composition for students who have a professional interest in music. This course prepares students for the advanced placement examination in music theory. Prerequisites for enrollment are:

- (1) Ability to read and write musical notation.
- (2) Recommendations of teachers.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

- d. **Advanced Placement Art History 1-2.** Provides instruction in a historical as well as an analytical approach to art and its place in civilization by relating art themes to social, political, religious, and cultural developments. This course prepares students for the advanced placement examination in art history. Prerequisite for enrollment is demonstrated readiness for college-level reading and writing.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

- e. **Advanced Placement Studio Art, Drawing Portfolio 1-2 or Advanced Placement Studio Art, General Portfolio 1-2.** Provide instruction in applying skills in painting, drawing, crafts, or three-dimensional design. These courses assist students in the preparation of their portfolios for advanced placement examinations in studio art. Prerequisites for enrollment are:

- (1) One full-year art course or equivalent.
- (2) Recommendation of art teacher.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

- f. **Advanced Placement French/German/Spanish Language 7-8; 9-10; 11-12.** Provides a one-, two-, or three-year sequence which is equivalent to a third-year college-level course in advanced composition and conversation, with focus on oral skills, composition and grammar, and emphasis on the use of language for active communication. Prerequisites for enrollment are:

- (1) Appropriate background coursework in French/German/Spanish.
- (2) Recommendation of French/German/Spanish teacher.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

- g. **Advanced Placement French or Spanish Literature 7-8; 9-10; 11-12.** Provides a one-, two-, or three-year sequence which is equivalent to a third-year college level course in literature, with focus on proficiency in language skill and the analysis of selected literary works from the countries where the language is spoken. Prerequisites for enrollment are:

- (1) Appropriate background coursework in French or Spanish.
- (2) Recommendation of French or Spanish teacher.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

- h. **Advanced Placement Latin: Vergil 7-8.** This course provides instruction in Latin poetry and prose parallel to that of middle-level college Latin courses. Its specific focus is the work of the classical Roman poet Vergil, and the course will prepare students for the advanced placement examination in "Latin Literature, Vergil." Prerequisites for enrollment are:

- (1) Appropriate previous coursework in Latin.

- (2) Recommendation of an appropriate Latin instructor.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

- i. **Advanced Placement Calculus AB 1-2.** Provides instruction in elementary functions, differential calculus, integral calculus, series and sequences, and elementary differential equations. This course prepares students for the advanced placement examination "Calculus AB." Prerequisites for enrollment are:

- (1) Completion of two years of algebra, one year of geometry, and a course in precalculus.
- (2) Recommendation of an appropriate mathematics teacher.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult the advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

- j. **Advanced Placement Statistics 1-2.** Provides college-level instruction in statistics so that students are able to complete statistical investigations requiring extended reasoning. Students learn to explore data, decide what and how to measure data in planning a study, use probability and simulation in anticipating patterns, and apply statistical inference. Students will be prepared for the advanced placement examination in statistics. Prerequisites for the course are:

- (1) Intermediate Algebra 1-2.
- (2) Recommendation of an appropriate mathematics teacher.
- (3) Concurrent enrollment in a course in pre-calculus or higher is recommended but not required.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult the advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

k. **Advanced Placement Biology 1-2.** Provides instruction in molecular and cellular biology, plant and animal biology, and complex ecological interactions for students who wish to pursue college-level studies while still in high school. This is a laboratory course that prepares students for the advanced placement examination in biology. Prerequisites for enrollment are:

(1) Completion of one year of biology and one year of chemistry.

-or-

(2) Recommendation of an appropriate science teacher.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

l. **Advanced Placement Chemistry 1-2.** Provides instruction in topics such as structure of matter, kinetic theory of gases, chemical equilibria, chemical kinetics, and the basic concepts of thermodynamics for students who wish to pursue college-level studies while still in high school. This is a laboratory course that prepares students for the advanced placement examination "General Chemistry." Prerequisites for enrollment are:

(1) Chemistry 1-2 or Advanced Chemistry 1-2.

(2) Intermediate Algebra 1-2 or equivalent.

(3) Recommendation of an appropriate science teacher.

Note: Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.

m. **Advanced Placement Environmental Science 1-2.** Consists of interdisciplinary study providing students with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world; to identify and analyze environmental problems, both natural and human-made; to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems; and to examine alternative solutions for resolving and/or preventing them. This is a

laboratory science that prepares students for the advanced placement examination in environmental science. Prerequisites for enrollment are:

- (1) Completion of courses in biology and chemistry.
 - (2) Recommendation of an appropriate science teacher.
- n. **Advanced Placement Physics B 1-2** or **Advanced Placement Physics C 1-2**. AP Physics B 1-2 provide noncalculus-based instruction in general physics for students who are prepared to pursue college-level studies while still in high school but will probably not major in physical science or engineering, whereas AP Physics C 1-2 provides instruction in physics with calculus on topics such as mechanics, electricity and magnetism; kinetic theory and thermodynamics; optics; and modern physics for students who are prepared to pursue college-level studies while still in high school and may plan to major in a physical science or engineering. These are laboratory courses that prepare students for the advanced placement examinations "Physics B," "Physics C (Mechanics)," and "Physics C (Electricity and Magnetism)." Prerequisites for enrollment are:
- (1) Physics 1-2 or teacher recommendation.
 - (2) For AP Physics B 1-2, successful completion of, or concurrent enrollment in, a precalculus course; and for AP Physics C 1-2, successful completion of, or concurrent enrollment, in calculus.
- Note:** Students who do not meet these criteria but who believe that they are qualified may consult an appropriate advanced placement teacher, counselor, or vice principal.
- o. **Advanced Placement United States History 1-2**. Provides instruction in the ideals, traditions, and institutions of the United States for high-achieving students in grade 11. This course prepares students to take the advanced placement examination in United States history. The prerequisite for enrollment is demonstrated readiness for college-level reading and writing.
- p. **Advanced Placement European History 1-2**. Provides instruction in the major themes of European history from 1450 to the present for high-achieving students in grades 10-12. The course also includes a section on basic American government and meets the high school graduation requirement for two social studies credits in grade 12. This course prepares students to take the advanced

placement examination in European history. The prerequisite for enrollment is demonstrated readiness for college-level reading and writing.

- q. **Advanced Placement United States Government and Politics 1-2.** This course is designed to provide challenging instruction to meet the mandated requirement in American government for students at the highest achievement level in grade 12. The course includes an in-depth study of the nature of the American political system, its development over the last two hundred years, and how it works today in the first quarter of the 21st century. The course prepares students to take the advanced placement examination in United States Government and Politics. The prerequisite for enrollment is demonstrated readiness for college-level reading and writing.
- r. **Advanced Placement Microeconomics and Advanced Placement Macroeconomics.** These courses provide instruction to meet the mandated requirement in economics, and to prepare them for satisfactory completion of the advanced placement examinations in economics. In addition to instruction in basic economic concepts, available in both AP economics courses, AP Microeconomics provides a special focus on the nature and functions of product markets, factor markets, and efficiency, equity, and the role of government. AP Macroeconomics emphasizes broader issues, such as the measurement of economic performance, national income and price determination, international economics, and growth. The prerequisite for enrollment is demonstrated readiness for college-level reading and writing.
- s. **Advanced Placement Psychology 1-2.** This course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. AP Psychology 1-2 will prepare students for the advanced placement examination in psychology. It is an elective course open to all students in grades 11-12.

D. IMPLEMENTATION

1. **Principal or designee** determines which students are tentatively qualified for AP courses.
3. Counselors inform qualified students of eligibility, distribute information sheets on specific AP courses, and program students.

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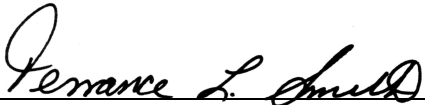
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E. FORMS AND AUXILIARY REFERENCE

1. Specific course descriptions for advanced placement and community college courses, available from the Gifted and Talented Education Program Office, Institute for Learning.

F. REPORTS AND RECORDS

G. APPROVED BY



Chief of Staff, Terrance L. Smith
For the Superintendent of Public Education