

# Course Descriptions

## Burnaby Central

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### ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

Students can enrich their educational experience at Burnaby Central through our various AP Courses that are offered. Not only does taking an AP course in high school give a student an opportunity to *potentially* get University credit in high school, AP courses are shown to help better prepare high school students for the academic challenges that you experience in University.

Research consistently shows that students who are successful in AP typically experience greater academic success in college than similar students who do not participate in AP. Post-Secondary institutes are beginning to look at prospective students' portfolios and evaluate how rigorous their senior years are, how diverse their course loads are and there's no better way to "beef up" your application than by being able to add an AP course or two.

***When applying for any AP course, students are required complete an [online recommendation](#) form that will be forwarded to the classroom teacher- in the event there is a waitlist for the course, these recommendation forms will play a large deciding factor in who will be accepted into classes.***

ADST

#### [AP Macroeconomics](#)

*This course is open to strong academic students in Grade 10 and up.*

AP Macroeconomics provides students with a thorough understanding of the principles of economics and how economists use those principles to examine aggregate economic behavior. Students learn how the measures of economic performance, such as gross domestic product (GDP), inflation, and unemployment are constructed and how to apply them to evaluate the macroeconomic conditions of an economy. The course recognizes the global nature of economics and provides ample opportunities to examine the impact of international trade and finance on nation economics.

## ENGLISH

### [AP English Literature & Composition](#)

AP English Literature and Composition focuses on reading, analyzing and writing about imaginative literature (fiction, poetry, drama) from various periods. Students engage in close reading and critical analysis of imaginative literature to deepen their understanding of the ways writers use language to provide both meaning and pleasure. As they read, students consider a work's structure, style, and themes, as well as its use of figurative languages, imagery, and symbolism. Writing assignments include expository, analytical and argumentative essays that require students to analyze and interpret literary works.

## MATHEMATICS

### [AP Calculus](#)

*This course is open to strong academic students who have completed Calculus 12 prior to the start of this course.*

AP Calculus AB is primarily concerned with developing the students' understanding of the concepts of calculus and providing experience with its methods and applications. The course emphasizes a multi-representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results and problems being expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally.

### [AP Computer Science A](#)

*This course is open to strong academic students and recommended that they have completed Computer Science 11 prior to the start of this course.*

AP Computer Science A is an introductory college-level computer science course. Students cultivate their understanding of coding through analyzing, writing, and testing code. They will explore concepts like modularity, variables and control structures. The emphasis of the course is object-oriented programming and designing using the Java programming language.

## AP Statistics

*This course is open to strong academic students in Grade 10 and up, who have a demonstrated aptitude for math.*

In AP Statistics, we learn to examine raw data, graphs, charts, rates, percentages, probabilities, averages, forecasts, and trend lines- major concepts and tools used collecting, analyzing and drawing conclusions from data.

## MODERN LANGUAGES

### AP Chinese Language & Culture

*This course is open to strong academic students in Grade 10 and up, who have met a prior Mandarin language level assessment and completed English 10 prior to the start of this course.*

AP Chinese is intended for students who are looking to develop their Chinese proficiency across the three communicative modes (Interpersonal, Interpretive, and Presentational) and the five goal areas (Communication, Cultures, Connections, Comparisons, and Communities), which align with the Standards for Foreign Language Learning by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. Chinese culture and social issues are explored in greater depth.

### AP French Language

*This course is open to strong academic students who have completed previous French courses, or who can demonstrate that they have met a prior French language level assessment.*

AP French Language and Culture emphasizes communication by applying interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational skills in real-life situations. This includes vocabulary usage, language control, communication strategies, and cultural awareness. The AP French Language and Culture course strives not to overemphasize grammatical accuracy at the expense of communication. To best facilitate the study of language and culture, the course is taught almost exclusively in French. This course engages students in an exploration of culture in both contemporary and historical contexts.

## SCIENCE

### AP Biology

*This course is open to strong academic, who have previously enrolled in Life Sciences 11 Enriched & Anatomy & Physiology 12 Enriched- a cohort will be formed.*

This second semester course prepares students for the May AP exam- as well as covers topics that require more depth from both Life Sciences 11 and Anatomy & Physiology 12. Please refer to Burnaby Central's Sciences Department Course Descriptions for more information on the pre-requisite courses.

## SOCIALS STUDIES

### AP Psychology

*This course is open to strong academic students in Grade 10 and up.*

AP Psychology course is designed to introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students are exposed to the psychological facts, principles and phenomena associated with each of the major subfields within psychology. They also learn about the ethics and methods psychologists use in their science and practice.

## VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

AP Courses in this discipline are designed for students who are seriously interested in the practical experience of art. AP Courses in this department are not based on a written exam; instead, students submit portfolios for evaluation during the May AP examination period. The portfolios share a basic structure, which requires students to show fundamental competences and range of understanding of visual concerns and methods. Each course asks students to demonstrate a depth of investigation and process of discovery through the Concentration section, the Breadth section and the Quality section.

### [AP 2-D Design Portfolio](#)

Students must create five physical works or high-quality printed reproductions of physical works that each demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas using 2-D art and design skills. They must also include 15 digital images of works of art and process documentation that demonstrate sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision.

### [AP 3-D Design Portfolio](#)

Students must create 10 digital images consisting of two views each of five works that demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas using 3-D art and design skills. They must also include 15 digital images of works of art and process documentation that demonstrate sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision.

### [AP Studio Art: Drawing](#)

Students must create five physical works or high-quality printed reproductions of physical works that each demonstrate synthesis of materials, processes, and ideas using drawing skills. They must also include 15 digital images of works of art and process documentation that demonstrate sustained investigation through practice, experimentation, and revision.