

Course Descriptions

Burnaby Central

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 Microeconomics](#)

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

AP Microeconomics gives students a thorough understanding of the principles of economics that apply to the functions of individual decision makers- both consumers and producers- within the economic system. It places primary emphasis on the nature and functions of product markets and includes the study of factor markets and of the role of government in promoting greater efficiency and equity in the economy.

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.

SOCIAL STUDIES

AP Psychology

This course will introduce students to the systematic and scientific study of behaviour and mental processes of humans. Students will be exposed to psychological facts, principals, and phenomenon associated with each of the sub fields in psychology. Topics addressed: Social Psych, The Brain, Personality, Learning, Intelligence etc. Students should be fully aware of the heavy content of this course and the academic challenge of a six-credit university level course. The content of this course supports a broad range of study/career paths including business, law, education, and health studies. The final exam in May is optional but strongly recommended. Students are awarded 6 university credits upon successful completion of the AP exam. This course counts as both a graduation credit as well as can be used for university entrance.

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.