



Congratulations on taking an AP course!

The top indicator of success in college is a student's participation in challenging and rigorous high school courses, like AP! You are making a smart investment in your future and ensuring that you will be prepared for wherever life takes you. Offering 22 different courses at Albert Einstein High School, the College Board's Advanced Placement program is enabling you to pursue college-level studies — with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement or both — while still in high school. With AP courses, you get to dig deeper into subjects you love and explore new ideas with classmates and AP teachers. Taking a college-level course at Albert Einstein High School means that you can see and feel what college work is actually like, while receiving the support to help you get there. AP students can really test and push themselves in a familiar setting while gaining confidence, developing good study habits, and enjoying a great learning experience.

TOP 5 Things You Should Know about AP Exams

1. **Students who take the AP exam are more engaged in the course through the year.** You chose to challenge yourself in an AP course and have been working hard all year to be successful. We find that taking the AP exam is a culmination of this hard work and serves as a goal for you. As a result, students who register for the exam often are often more engaged and successful in the course. This translates to developing the skills needed for college and career success!
2. **AP Courses can help you earn college credit for a fraction of the cost.** AP tests are scored on a scale of 0-5. Most schools offer college credit, advanced placement, or both, for AP Exam scores above 4, and some may accept a 3. With an average college course costing over \$1,500, AP exams can be an affordable option. These credits can also allow students to study abroad, avoid required introductory courses, or secure a second major. Each school has their own AP credit transfer policy, which is usually posted on their website. You can also see Mrs. Becraft in the AP & IB Office, Room 172, for help. Additionally, Albert Einstein High School is committed to ensuring access to AP exams for all students. If the AP exam cost is a prohibiting you from registering, please see the AP Exam registration packet for more information about requesting a fee waiver or school assistance.
3. **AP Courses do not impact your MCPS grade.** Students are sometimes apprehensive to take the AP exam as they believe it will impact their grade in the course. While we expect and encourage all students to take the AP exams for the AP classes for which they are enrolled, you are not penalized if you choose not to. AP scores are entirely separate from a student's MCPS grade and do not impact the your course credit for graduation.
4. **You can chose whether to send your score to colleges and universities.** You should expect to receive exam results online in July. Your scores will also be sent to any college or university requested during registration. If you are nervous though, you can choose to not send your scores during registration or you can contact College Board after the exam.
5. **Albert Einstein High School offers FREE full-length practice exams.** Speaking of being nervous, Albert Einstein High School offers multiple practice AP and/or IB exam sessions. At these sessions, students take a full-length practice AP and/or IB exams. This is a unique opportunity for authentic exam practice, as well as a chance to review their results with their teacher. Specific details and dates will be released in March!

*Please contact Kim Becraft, Albert Einstein High School IB & AP Coordinator,
at Kimberly_M_Becraft@mcpsmd.org with any questions.*



Albert Einstein High School Advanced Placement Courses



What is Advanced Placement?

Offering 21 different courses at Albert Einstein High School, the College Board's Advanced Placement program enables students to pursue college-level studies — with the opportunity to earn college credit, advanced placement or both — while still in high school.

Albert Einstein High School currently offers the following AP courses:

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| ✓ AP Biology | ✓ AP Human Geography A/B | ✓ AP Spanish Language & Culture |
| ✓ AP Calculus AB | ✓ AP Language and Composition | ✓ AP Statistics |
| ✓ AP Calculus BC | ✓ AP Literature and Composition | ✓ AP Studio Art- Drawing |
| ✓ AP Computer Science Principles | ✓ AP US Government | ✓ AP Studio Art 3D Design |
| ✓ AP Computer Science A | ✓ AP Physics 1 | ✓ AP Studio Art-2D Design |
| ✓ AP Environmental Science | ✓ AP Physics 2 | ✓ AP US History A/B |
| ✓ AP French Language & Culture | ✓ AP Psychology | ✓ AP World History |

Why take Advanced Placement courses?

- ⇒ **Build College Skills:** Taking an AP course builds the skills needed throughout a student's college years by giving their mind a rigorous workout, while polishing up on time management and study skills. Students also get better at handling challenging issues and problems, with the support of Albert Einstein's AP teachers. AP courses let students know what to expect during the next phase of their educational journey, and help them build the confidence to succeed.
- ⇒ **Stand Out in College Admissions:** Deciding to take an AP course lets colleges and universities know that students have what it takes to succeed in an undergraduate environment. When admissions officers see "AP" on a transcript, they know that a student's experience in a particular class has prepared them well for the challenges of college.
- ⇒ **Earn College Credits:** By taking an AP course and scoring successfully on the related AP Exam, students can save on college expenses: most colleges and universities nationwide offer college credit, advanced placement, or both, for qualifying AP Exam scores. These credits can allow students to save college tuition, study abroad, or secure a second major. AP can transform what once seemed unattainable into something within reach.
- ⇒ **Skip Introductory Classes:** Taking an AP course related to a student's potential major and earning a qualifying score on the AP Exam can help them advance and avoid required introductory courses – so students can move directly into upper-level classes and focus on the work that interests them most. Even taking an AP Exam unrelated to a student's potential major can place a student beyond their college's general education requirements. This opens up additional time in a student's schedule, enabling them to do a second major or minor, take exciting electives, or pursue additional interests.



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