

Surviving High School

- Attendance
- Challenging Coursework
- Time Management
- Asking for help
- Get Involved

Pre-AP/ AP Courses

Points to Consider

The Benefits

- Better prepared for college curriculum
 - A 2008 study showed that AP students had higher 4 year completion rates in college.
 - Source: <https://professionals.collegeboard.org/k-12/assessment/ap>
- Better prepared for SAT/ACT college admission exams
 - A study by Indiana University found that advanced course work was associated with higher SAT scores.
 - Source: <http://brandcollegeconsulting.com/how-high-school-course-selection-impacts-sat-scores/>
- AP coursework can help students be accepted into competitive colleges and programs within colleges
 - The 2008 study found that AP courses increased eligibility for scholarships and was a positive factor in the college admission process.
 - Source: <https://professionals.collegeboard.org/k-12/assessment/ap>

Cautions

- Time Commitment
 - Assume that each class will require 45 minutes of study/homework time a night.
 - Being involved in at least one major activity throughout the 4 years of high school is also very important to colleges
 - Think through your priorities and time management strategies

Cautions

- Courses move quickly through concepts
 - How quickly do you catch on to math concepts?
 - English?
 - Science?
 - History?
 - Consider this when deciding which courses and how many courses to take.

Cautions

- Not taking the first years of Pre-AP courses may hurt your chances of success in AP courses later.
 - The freshman and sophomore courses lay a strong foundation for the college level coursework in the junior and senior courses.

Other Points to Consider

- GPA: Weighted for Pre-AP/AP classes.
 - Grade Points are awarded according to semester averages
 - 90-100=5
 - 80-89=4
 - 70-79=3
 - 69 or below= 0
 - A 69 is still failing and you will be ineligible. There is not a 10 point bonus to the number average (65≠75)

Other Points to Consider

- The process is more important than the grade.
 - Only 10% can be in the top 10%
 - What you gain in striving to be Top 10% is more important than reaching the goal.
 - Struggling is good for us
 - Texas Tech found that completion rates for students in the top quarter were better than top 10%
 - College Ready vs. College Eligible
 - Where should your focus be?

What if it is too much?

- A committee must meet to evaluate the need to drop to regular course work during the 5th week of school or at the end of the first semester.
- No students can drop Pre-AP/AP courses outside of these windows.