

ARHS Advanced Placement Application



Philosophy – Ashley Ridge High School seeks to create opportunities for all students to stretch themselves academically in an area of their interest within a supportive environment.

Advanced Placement courses are one way to make that happen. ARHS offers 25 different AP courses in 7 different departments.



*“People might not get all they work for in this world, but they must certainly work for all they get.”
Frederick Douglass*

Advanced Placement courses are college level courses. The pacing, difficulty, skill development and content of AP curriculum are designed to help students competently prepare for success in college. All students interested in attending a college or university should strongly consider taking at least one AP course.

ARHS Advanced Placement Application & Agreement

This AP application is designed to inform students and parents of the specific requirements and expectations of AP enrollment. **Students wishing to enroll in an AP course for the 2020-2021 academic year must return the ARHS AP Application with signatures indicating that the details of the agreement are understood.**

Benefits of Taking an AP Course and AP Exam

- Gain in-depth exploration of an area of interest or potential college major or minor
- Further develop college-level academic skills including: advanced study skills, analytical reading and writing, the ability to communicate ideas to make connections, critical thinking and problem solving
- Master skills required for success in college: time management, collaboration and self-advocacy
- Further develop character and leadership skills
- Enhance skills such as grit, moxie, curiosity, adaptability, resourcefulness and initiative
- Increase opportunities for college admission
- Increase potential to receive college credit or advanced placement in college courses

College Success Research Outcomes

- AP students with a proficient AP exam score perform better in college than students who did not take an AP course.
- AP students with a proficient AP exam score had higher four-year college graduation rates than taking AP courses alone and taking other non-AP courses.
- AP students had higher first-year and fourth-year GPAs in college than those who did not take AP courses in high school.

AP Exam Expectation and Information

All students enrolled in an Advanced Placement course are expected to take the corresponding AP Exam and to perform at their highest level possible. The grade awarded to you by your teacher does not substitute for a proficient AP exam score, but your grade will be taken into account when you apply to college. **Students enrolled in an AP course will be automatically registered for the related AP Exam and are required to sit for the exam.**

Essential AP Student Beliefs

- I know the workload is more rigorous and I am ready for that responsibility.
- I know my AP course(s) will require a greater time commitment.
- I know that more college opportunities are available to me by successfully completing my AP course(s).
- I am interested in the subject and want to focus on it and challenge myself.
- I am capable of doing the work to be successful in my AP class(es).
- I am motivated to learn new concepts and ideas.
- I will be open with others about stress, difficulties and concerns.
- I will engage in the learning process.
- I will be determined.
- I will use the supports in place and seek help when needed.
- I will have fun!
- I will expect and accept challenging work.
- I will create and maintain strong work habits and studying routines.
- I will work well independently and in collaborative groups.
- I will be organized and can manage more than one assignment at a time.
- I will be responsible for any work missed due to absence.
- I will ask questions in class when I don't understand something.
- I will do outside reading, research and writing.
- I will pursue supplemental work on my own.
- I will continue to grow academically and personally throughout my AP course(s).

Supports – “After All, We’re a Team”

- Your teacher and other teachers of the course
- Classmates and structured study groups
- Your counselor
- AP Review Books (available in the Media Center)
- Review Sessions/Mock AP Exams
- Wise use of ILT

ARHS Advanced Placement Application

Student's Name: _____

Year of Graduation: _____

Counselor: _____

Enrollment in Multiple Advanced Placement Courses

If you are intending to enroll in one or more Advanced Placement courses during a single academic year, you are encouraged to take into consideration interests, balance of classes, academic challenge, physical and emotional well-being, extracurricular and community involvement, work and family commitments, and post-high school planning. Because of the rigor associated with AP courses, students must decide on whether or not their schedules can accommodate the amount of out-of-class time (e.g. homework, reading, projects, writing) and dedication required for success. To avoid any unintended consequences, ARHS recommends committing to a balanced approach when making academic choices. Be prepared to adjust your goals and expectations accordingly.

Balanced mental health as outlined in the National Mental Health Plan (2008) is "a state of emotional and social well-being in which the individual can cope with the normal stress of life and achieve his or her potential. It includes being able to work productively and contribute to community life."

List the Advanced Placement courses you wish to schedule for 2020-2021. Complete the table.				
AP Course 2020-2021	Current course in that content area	Current grade in that content area	Current teacher in that content area	AP Teacher Signature (NOT for student use)
Example: AP Language	Honors English 2	85	Mr. Swamp Fox	

I am aware that to be successful, most AP courses require preliminary work, which may include the completion of summer assignments. *I understand that I will not be able to drop an Advanced Placement course except under very unique circumstances.* These schedule changes will be contingent upon space availability. I recognize that there may be periods when difficult material will be presented and avoiding the struggle will not be the answer; seeking help and new methods to learn are likely to remedy my temporary frustration level. I agree to do my best in my advanced placement course(s) and on the exam.

I have read and understand the ARHS AP Application/Agreement and have considered the commitment needed to be successful in the AP course(s) which I have requested.

Printed Name: _____

Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this form with your course verification sheet.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your counselor.