



VRHS Advanced Placement (AP) Application

Application Due Date: March 4, 2016

Placement into AP courses will be based upon a body of evidence which may include, but is not limited to AP Application & Letter of Interest, Confidential Teacher Recommendation form, academic history, test scores, capstone projects, student conduct and attendance records.

Please submit one application packet for all AP courses requested to your high school counselor.

Student Name _____ **Current Grade Level** _____

AP Course(s) Requested:

Complete the following and submit to Vista Ridge High School Counseling Department:

- Letter of Interest:** Please attach a *typed*, one page letter of interest describing (1) Why you want to enroll in an AP course (2) Why do you think you are ready for AP level coursework and (3) What will you contribute to this class or classes.
- 3 Confidential Teacher Recommendation Forms:** Forms have been submitted to my current teachers, including one from the AP subject area(s). Please list the teachers:

_____ **These will be submitted to the office by the teachers to Ms. Nice**

- ICAP:** I have completed my CIC summary and this AP course aligns with my college and/or career plans. (CIC summary page completed and attached)
- Transcripts:** Most current transcripts are attached.
- I am applying for 2 or more AP Courses.** Please list AP or CE courses you are applying for here:

- I understand there is a MANDATORY AP Information Meeting I must attend on Wednesday, March 2nd**

Student and parent attendance is mandatory for this meeting and is part of the AP application process.

I understand that AP courses require a higher level of commitment from me. I have read the AP Expectations on the back of this AP Application and agree to adhere to these expectations.

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

I understand that my student is applying for an AP course with a higher level of commitment than traditional high school courses. I have read the AP Expectations on the back of this AP Application.

Parent Signature _____ **Date** _____

AP Review Committee Only:

_____ Student is approved for this AP course Date of Review: _____

_____ Student is NOT approved for this AP course

Grade Level Counselor: _____ Date of follow up: _____



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Advanced Placement (AP) Expectations

The College Board's Advanced Placement Program (AP) enables willing and academically prepared students to pursue college-level studies while in high school. AP students can earn college credit and potentially skip intro college courses by testing well on AP exams (which is determined by the specific learning institution), saving college tuition costs. Research indicates that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP exam typically experience greater academic success in college. Students and parents must understand the content and rigor of AP courses are significantly higher than those found in traditional high school level courses.

AP students are expected to demonstrate mastery in specific subject areas. This includes the ability to read college-level text and apply the conventions of Standard Written English in their writing. Additionally, personal motivation, academic maturity and integrity, intellectual curiosity and high levels of class participation are necessary. Students should consult with AP teachers in the content area(s) regarding specific requirements before applying for AP courses. Students requesting 3 or more AP and/or Concurrent Enrollment courses must obtain authorization from Mr. Grose, Principal at Vista Ridge High School.

AP students will be expected to develop analytical reasoning skills and form disciplined study habits, anticipating an average of 60 minutes of homework each night per AP course. Long-term projects may also be assigned, requiring students to self-manage their time and workload. Courses should align with students' Individual Career & Academic Plans (ICAP). *It is not the responsibility of the AP teacher to remind students of deadlines and time management.*

AP exam scores are typically available by mid July, at which time weighted grades will be loaded onto transcripts. Graduating Senior's grades will be updated upon the release of AP test scores.

A non-refundable AP course fee, which includes the AP exam fee of approximately \$95, will be charged for each course and is payable to the high school. Mid year AP course drops are not permitted for weighted grades; fees are non-refundable.

District 49 adheres to the College Board policy that strongly encourages educators to make equitable access a guiding principle for their AP programs by giving all willing and academically prepared students the opportunity to participate in AP. Scholarships are available for students in need of financial assistance. Student and parent attendance is required as part of the AP application process for AP applicants.

Placement into AP courses will be based upon a body of evidence which may include, but is not limited to, AP Application & Letter of Interest, Confidential Teacher Recommendation forms, academic history, test scores, student conduct and attendance records.

To apply for AP courses, please complete your application process on Page 1 of this form and submit to your high school counselor.