

An **AP (ADVANCED PLACEMENT)** class is a course designed to prepare students to take the College Board-sponsored Advanced Placement (AP) exam. These national curricula are developed by both high school and college teachers under the auspices of the College Board. Most universities award college credit based on AP exam scores. Students in AP classes will be challenged academically, will be exposed to advanced subject matter, can dramatically increase their GPA, and may also be better prepared to succeed in college. If AP courses are offered at a high school, many colleges expect serious candidates to enroll in AP courses. Since AP classes are more difficult than traditional courses, grades in these courses are weighted differently and can strengthen a student's chances for admission to college by boosting their GPA. With the standard four-point grading scale, A = 4 grade points, B = 3 grade points, C = 2 grade points, D = 1 grade point, and F = 0. The grades you earn in AP classes are given an extra 1.5 grade points, so A = 5.5, B = 4.5, C = 3.5 grade points. In order for students to enroll in an AP course, a student must have earned at least a "B" in the same subject area (Math, Science, History or English) in the preceding year. Students who do not meet the grade prerequisite can be considered based on the recommendation of their teacher. Some AP classes have work that is assigned to be done over the summer:

Summer Assignments:

AP Calculus and AP Statistics – a worksheet that is due the first Friday of school

AP English – Read *Death Be Not Proud* (a memoir) and write a 2 page paper.

The work is due the second week of school and is preparatory for a later assignment.

AP US History – Read and outline the first four chapters of textbook (The American Pageant) and complete several handouts that are due the first Friday of school

An **honors class** parallels the curriculum offered in the corresponding regular class, but will cover additional topics and some topics in greater depth. The work load of the honors class will be more strenuous than that of the traditional class. Students in honors classes will be more challenged academically, will be exposed to advanced subject matter, can dramatically increase their GPA, and may also be better prepared to succeed in college. If honors courses are offered at a high school, many colleges expect serious candidates to enroll in honors courses. The strong academic preparation provided by honors courses in high school will generally increase a student's level of success in college. Since honors classes are more difficult than traditional courses, grades in these courses are weighted differently and can strengthen a student's GPA. With the standard four-point grading scale, A = 4 grade points, B = 3 grade points, C = 2 grade points, D = 1 grade point, and F = 0. Honors classes are given one extra grade point, so A = 5, B = 4, C = 3. When honors courses are averaged with your other high school grades your overall GPA can be higher than 4.0. Honors courses will meet together with the traditional college preparatory class. Some honors classes have work that is assigned to be done over the summer:

Summer Assignments:

11 Grade Honors English – one of the honors quarterly projects due first day of school