

Omaha Public Schools  
**Advanced Placement Program\***

A large graphic of the letters "AP" in a bold, green, serif font. The letters are set against a grey background that features a faint, larger-scale version of the "AP" letters. A green wavy ribbon-like shape flows from the left side of the "AP" letters down towards the bottom left of the page.

**Bryan High School**  
2009

A circular logo for Bryan Senior High School. The outer ring of the circle contains the words "Academics" at the top, "Activities" on the left, and "Athletics" on the right. In the center of the circle is a detailed illustration of a cougar or panther. Below the illustration, the text "Bryan Senior High School" is written.

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Information for this book is from the College Board web site for AP Exam Information: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

Course offerings and other information vary according to each individual high school.

*“AP” designation on the transcript for each course is contingent upon authorization of the College Board. Should a staff change occur, the course will be reauthorized upon College Board approval. Regardless of authorization, each course prepares students for the Advanced Placement Exam administered in May.*



## **A Message from the Superintendent**

The Advanced Placement (AP) program in the Omaha Public Schools offers high school students the opportunity to take college level courses in a high school setting. For over fifty years, students in the school district have participated in the AP program, not only to gain higher-level academic skills, but also to earn college credit while still in high school.

The Advanced Placement program is a cooperative educational endeavor between the secondary schools and colleges and universities. AP classes have been developed and are taught by dedicated teachers whose expertise, experience and enthusiasm for their subject area enhance the learning experience for students. Through participation in the AP program, students broaden their intellectual horizons with challenging coursework requiring in depth study and commitment to academic excellence.

Over ninety percent of the nation's colleges and universities have an AP policy granting incoming students credit, placement, or both, for qualifying AP examination grades. Successful completion of AP Exams offers students the opportunity to earn advanced academic college credit. This can mean substantial savings for families on courses that would otherwise have to be taken in the freshmen and sophomore years in college. Participation in the Advanced Placement program gives students college level experience while still in high school.

The AP program helps to fulfill the mission of the Omaha Public Schools to assist each young person in the school district to achieve to his or her highest potential. Involvement in an advanced placement class is an enriching and rewarding experience for students. I strongly encourage all interested students to speak with their high school counselors and teachers about participation in the Advanced Placement program.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'John J. Mackiel'.

*John J. Mackiel*  
*Superintendent of Schools*





## OMAHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

### Advanced Placement at Bryan High School

The Advanced Placement (AP) experience at Bryan High School empowers students by teaching them the skills needed for success at the college and university level. AP classes instill knowledge, competence, and confidence in high school students, offering access to college credit while still in high school. Beginning in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade students can select challenging AP courses as a part of their course of study.

The College Board's AP Program is the largest and most recognized credit by exam program in the world. OPS graduates have been able to complete full semesters of college credits through their high school AP program, and they are superbly prepared for the academic rigors of college. In addition students also benefit by having AP courses listed on their transcripts indicating to colleges, employers, and scholarship committees that the students are committed to academic challenge, and they are willing to be measured by the highest standards available.

AP instructors are highly trained, dedicated and successful in the instruction of AP curriculum. Just as students in AP courses need to work hard, the AP instructors use innovative and proven teaching strategies that assist student performance on national exams. Student can be confident that participation in AP courses is effective preparation for the AP exams and simulate college level academic expectations.

Students who wish to participate in AP courses can enroll during course registration during the second semester of each school year. Prospective AP students should discuss enrollment with course instructors and counselors. Superior past academic performance, commitment to excellence, and a solid curricular work ethic each are part of the requirement for participation in AP curriculum. AP courses meet as regularly scheduled classes and prepare students to take the three hour long AP Exams during the second and third week of May. Upon completion of testing all exams are sent to the College Board and are scored by the College Board. Exams are read and scored by highly trained groups of college and high school instructors from all over the world. Students who completed AP Exams receive their scores in mid-July. There is a required exam fee for each exam students take, but financial aid is available for students who meet certain financial need guidelines.

We hope you will consider participating in your school's AP program. If you have questions about the AP program, contact an AP instructor or check in your school guidance office. The school advanced education counselor or the AP coordinator will be able to discuss AP opportunities with you.





## AP Course Offerings at Bryan High School (2009-10)

AP Biology 1-2	AP Human Geography
AP Calculus AB 1-2	AP Music Theory
AP Chemistry	AP Psychology
AP English Literature & Composition	AP Statistics
AP German Language	AP U.S. History
AP Government	AP World History 1-2

### AP Exam Dates for the 2008-09 School Year

#### 2009 Exam Calendar - Week 1

	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>
May 4	Government & Politics: United States	Government & Politics: Comparative* French Language*
May 5	Computer Science A* Computer Science AB* Spanish Language*	Statistics
May 6	Calculus AB* Calculus BC*	Chinese Language and Culture
May 7	English Literature* German Language*	Japanese Language and Culture* French Literature*
May 8	United States History	European History Studio Art (portfolios due)

#### 2009 Exam Calendar - Week 2

	<i>Morning</i>	<i>Afternoon</i>	<i>Afternoon - 2 p.m.</i>
May 11	Biology* Music Theory*	Physics B* Physics C: Mechanics*	Physics C: Electricity & Magnetism**
May 12	Environmental Science* Chemistry*	Psychology	
May 13	Italian Language and Culture* English Language*	Art History	
May 14	Macroeconomics* World History*	Microeconomics	
May 15	Human Geography* Spanish Literature*	Latin Literature* Latin: Virgil*	

**2010  
AP Exam  
dates are  
May 3-7  
and  
May 10-14**

\* Students wishing to take the exams that are scheduled for the same time slot should ask their AP Coordinator to contact AP Services.

\*\* The Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism exam must begin between 2 p.m. and 3 p.m.





## How Do I Register for AP Exams?

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program offers students two weeks to take the national exams starting the second week of May during each school year. Student must register for each AP Exam they wish to take. Registration takes place through the month of March either with the instructor or through the building AP coordinator. All AP orders are due by at least April 1. Thus students will likely be required to complete registration by late March so school AP orders can be processed in a timely fashion.

At the time of registration the full exam fee of \$86.00 is due. (At the time of registration a \$20.00 non-refundable deposit is due.) The school will hold all payments until the exams are taken. Students who miss a scheduled exam for reasons not covered by the College Board policy on absence can arrange to take an alternative exam for an additional \$50.00 fee (added on the original fee.)

Students who are on the free or reduced lunch program (or have extenuating economic circumstances) may qualify for a fee reduction for each AP Exam taken. Students who meet these qualifications (or wish to discuss their circumstances) may contact the AP coordinator in their building to discuss options for fee reductions. All fee reductions must accompany the regular AP order. Therefore, students considering this option need to plan to take care of this responsibility early in March. The AP coordinator in the building will handle fee reduction inquiries in complete confidence and respect for students. Students who believe they may qualify are strongly encouraged to make inquiries.

## Fee Reductions & Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

The College Board makes accommodations for students who have special financial or learning needs. Students who may qualify for either accommodation need to apply early in the school year to make arrangements. Parents, teachers, or students who wish to explore fee reductions and/or test accommodations should contact the AP Coordinator in the individual high school.

**Fee Reductions:** Fee reductions are available. These adjustments are based on need or personal circumstance – merit or scholarship are not factors. The College Board provides specific income criteria for qualifying students. Students on free or reduced lunch automatically qualify for the reduction. The building

AP coordinator has the authority to grant fee reductions for special circumstances of financial need such as family problems, recent family financial crisis, or other reasons that may apply. The deadline to request



reductions based on financial of special need will be announced in February or March of each school year.

**Students with Disabilities:** To qualify for special accommodations either a medical doctor or the student's IEP manager or the special education department chairperson must document accommodations or adjustment in the testing environment. Accommodations for testing include: extended time, enlarged print, vocalized exams, etc. Accommodation requests for testing must be completed early in the school year. These requests often take considerable time to complete and receive approval. Thus, it is recommended that students complete the requests by January 31. The College Board has implemented a new policy requiring a special education request for accommodations be on file for all AP Exams. The building AP coordinator can address the specific procedure to follow for accommodations for students with disabilities. Remember - begin the request early.

## Test Preparation for AP Exams

Although students need not take a formal AP course in order to write an AP Exam, students are highly encouraged to take the AP course for which they wish to test. Most instructors provide review sessions after school for students to participate. We highly recommend that students work and communicate closely with their AP instructor about all exam readiness issues. Several publishing companies have created exam specific books to help students prepare for AP Exams. Study guides are available for purchase on-line and through local bookstores.

### AP Exam Review

<http://www.collegeboard.com/ap/students/prep/index.html>

Whether you are studying an AP subject at school, or doing it on your own, the College Board has a wide variety of resources to help you:

- **APCD** — Get ready for an AP Exam with these thorough (and portable!) exam review CDs for Calculus AB, English Language, English Literature, European History, Spanish Language, and U.S. History. Each APCD is a personal study guide with tutorials, practice tests, test-taking strategies — even suggested study schedules.
- **Apex Learning's Online Exam Review** — If online preparation for AP Exams appeals to you, you might want to visit the AP Exam review section of Apex Learning's Web site, which includes diagnostic pretests, study plans, multimedia review materials, and practice questions from actual past AP Exams. Parents and students should be aware that use of Apex requires a fee.
- **Study Skills and Test-Taking Tips** — A collection of tips has been compiled to help you meet the demands of an AP course and exam.



Foreign Language  
Math & Science  
Social Studies

- **College Board Online Store** — Cruise the AP Aisle of the store to find AP publications, videos, and other materials of interest.

## AP Exam Weeks and Exam Day Activities

AP Exams are administered the 1st and 2nd weeks of May. Check the AP website for exact dates (<http://apcentral.collegeboard.com>). Exams schedules for all exams are posted in all AP classrooms, in all AP brochures, and in this publication. Students should review the AP Exams schedules and report any conflicts immediately. Family vacations, appointments, field trips, school activities, athletic events, etc. are not normally excused under AP Exams policy guidelines. Emergency situations will be considered on an individual basis. If students miss a scheduled AP Exam the make-up exam is different than regular exam, and there is an additional cost.

Test days are structured to ensure proper administration for exams and to provide students with the optimal testing environment. There are both morning and afternoon exams given each testing day. It is possible that a student who is enrolled in numerous AP courses may have two exams on the same day. If two exams are scheduled in the same time slot, the College Board will provide an alternate exam to that student without an additional charge.

On the day of the exam students should be rested and well fed. The exams last over three hours and students need to sustain a high level of energy. Students will have a ten-minute break during each exam and must remain the entire testing period. Each exam administrator will advise students about materials needed for that exam. Typically students need bring only two #2 pencils and two black or blue pens (erasable is recommended.) Students may not bring dictionaries, notes, textbooks, or other instructional materials. Graphing calculators are allowed in the math and physics exams.

Upon completion of all AP testing student exams are shipped to Educational Testing Services for scoring. Results are reported in mid-July to high schools, selected colleges, and to individual students. For a modest fee students may call for their scores after July 1. See the AP Calendar in this publication for more details.



# AP Exam Calendar 2008-09



## Course Calendar

Spring before starting an AP course

Well ahead of time, you need to start thinking about what AP courses you might want to take. Learn more about the program on the AP Web site. Discuss your AP plans with your parents, teachers, and AP Coordinator.

Summer

Some AP teachers require that you complete work (like summer reading) during the summer months to prepare for their course. For example, for AP English you may be given a reading list. Make sure you complete these assignments, so that you are up to speed when the class begins.

## 2009

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January

Talk to your AP teachers and/or AP Coordinator about taking the exams. Contact the disabilities (SSD) coordinator at your school if you will need testing accommodations.

February 20

Eligibility forms for students with disabilities whose forms require Documentation Review must be determined complete by this date.

March 1

Deadline for home-schooled students and students whose schools do not offer AP to contact AP Services for a list of local AP Coordinators at whose schools they could arrange to test.

March 6

Eligibility forms for students with disabilities whose forms require the School Verification process must be determined complete by this date.

March 15

Deadline for home-schooled students and students whose schools do not offer AP to contact AP Coordinators identified by AP Services.

May 4-8 and

May 11-15

Exam dates (**2010 AP Exam dates are May 3-7 and May 10-14**)

May 20-22

Late testing dates

June 15

Deadline for receipt of requests for grade withholding, grade cancellation, or a change in college grade report recipient.

Early-Mid July

AP grade reports released to students, high schools, and designated colleges.

July 1

Grades by phone available for current year's administration.

September

Scholar Award and International Diploma notifications sent to schools and students.

September 15

Deadline for ordering free-response booklets.

October 31

Deadline for requesting Multiple-Choice Re-Score Service.





## Dual Enrollment

Omaha Public Schools and the University of Nebraska Omaha have partnered to bring this advanced education opportunity to our students. Dual Enrollment allows Advanced Placement students to earn college credit while still in high school. This credit is earned in the high school setting with enrollment in certain Advanced Placement courses. Once the student successfully completes the course, s/he is required to take the Advanced Placement exam administered by their high school. Course offerings may vary school-to-school, and year-to-year. Ask your Advanced Placement coordinator for a list of your school's offerings.

### **Why is this important?**

College-bound students can get a jump on their degree and maximize their time in advanced high school classes.

### **How is it determined which classes are available for Dual Enrollment?**

The faculty at UNO and the staff at the high schools work together to determine which classes meet the academic requirements of the Dual Enrollment Program. Check with each high school for detailed information on eligible classes.

### **How does one apply for the Dual Enrollment Program?**

A UNO representative will visit designated dual enrollment courses two weeks prior to the registration deadline. Students may ask questions at an informal meeting. Students are then to turn in their registrations to the AP coordinator within the two week window. Each parent/guardian/student will receive a bill from the university and will pay UNO directly. Scholarships are available, based on a predetermined criteria, through the AP coordinator.

A separate application is completed for each course for which the student would like to receive credit.

## AP Scholar Awards

Each autumn, the AP Program offers several Scholar Awards to recognize high school students who have demonstrated college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. Although there is no monetary award, in addition to receiving an award certificate, this achievement is acknowledged on any grade report that is sent to colleges the following fall. For more information about the AP Scholar Award, visit: [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

### AP® Awards Information

Award	Requirements
AP Scholar	Granted to students who receive grades of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.
AP Scholar with Honor	Granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, <b>and</b> grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.
AP Scholar with Distinction	Granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, <b>and</b> grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.
AP State Scholar	Granted to the one male and one female student in each U.S. state and the District of Columbia with grades of 3 or higher on the greatest number of AP Exams, <b>and then</b> the highest average grade (at least 3.5) on all AP Exams taken.
National AP Scholar	Granted to students in the United States who receive an average grade of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, <b>and</b> grades of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams.

The College Board web site for AP Exam Information  
[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)





*John J. Mackiel, Superintendent*



## **Advanced Placement Program**

*Supported by the Office of Gifted and Talented  
Department of Curriculum and Learning*