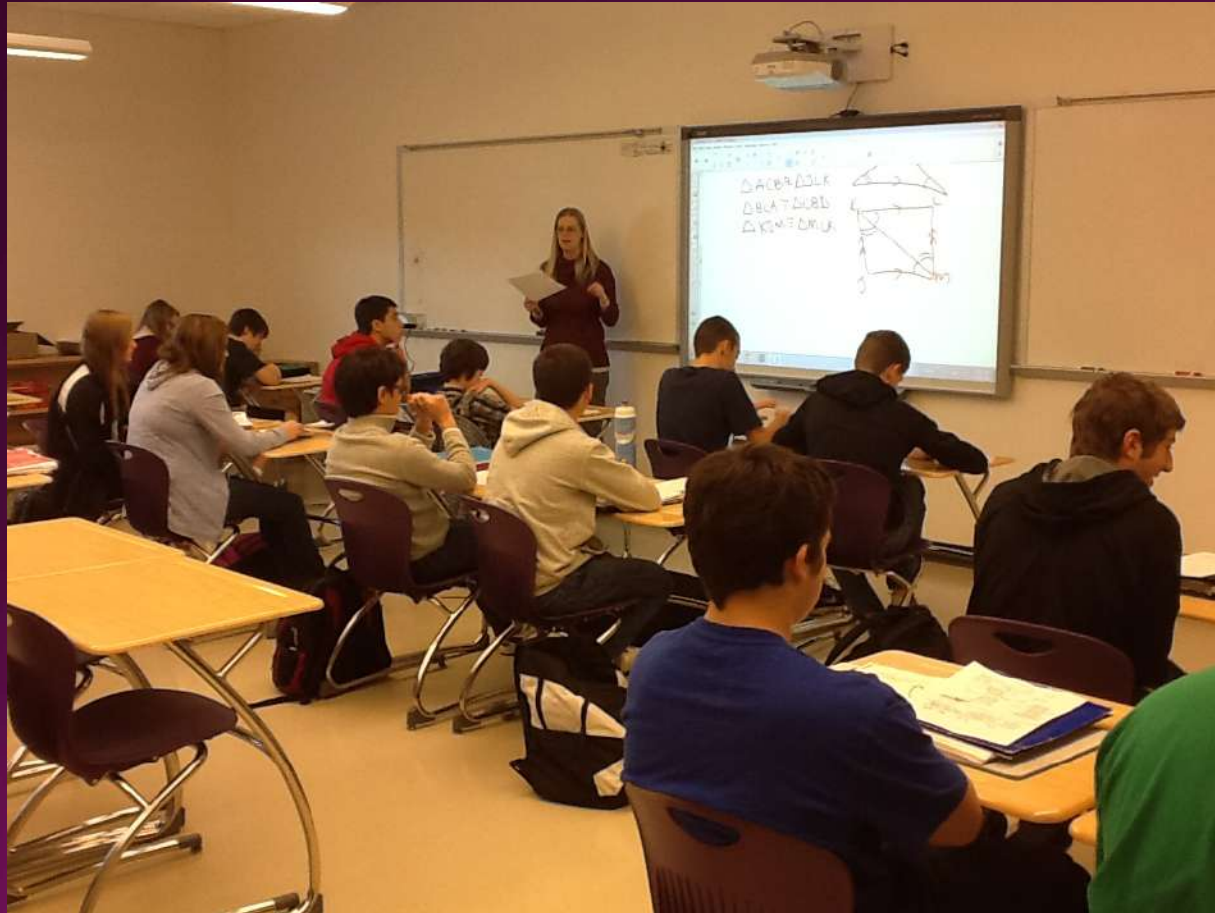


Advanced Placement at Norton High School



General Requirements

- High grades in the subject area under consideration
- Teacher recommendation
- Appropriate background to handle the course
- The ability to work hard
- A commitment to take the AP exam
(approx. \$95.00 per test)

General Expectations

- Outside reading, reflection and written work over the summer
- All work handed in on time
- Nightly studying and homework
- Coursework comes first. Other commitments come after that.
- Regular meetings after school with teacher to seek help, review and learn the material

The Successful AP Student

- Is able to work hard
- Makes and honors commitments
- Seeks help when needed
- Works well in groups both in and out of class
- Knows his/her limits
- Reads regularly
- Writes well
- Perseveres
- Learns on his/her own
- Is motivated
- Does not have to have the highest GPA

General Recommendations

- Students in AP should find a balance between AP and other classes and commitments.
- Be careful about how many AP and honors courses are on any one schedule. The workload could become daunting.
- Make sure that AP courses are in areas of strength and interest.

Why Take AP Courses?

Stand Out in College Admissions

- Deciding to take an AP course lets colleges and universities know that you have what it takes to succeed in an undergraduate environment.

Earn College Credits

- By taking an AP course and scoring successfully on the related AP Exam, you can save on college expenses: most colleges and universities nationwide offer college credit, advanced placement, or both, for qualifying AP Exam scores. Check out specific colleges' guidelines on [AP Credit Policy database](#).

Source: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap/the-rewards>

Why Take AP Courses?

Skip Introductory Classes

- This opens up additional time on your schedule, enabling you to do a second major or minor, take exciting electives, or pursue additional interests.

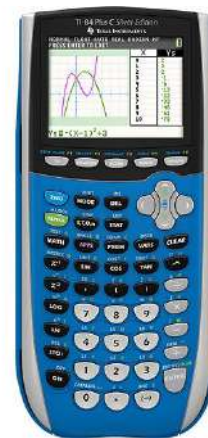
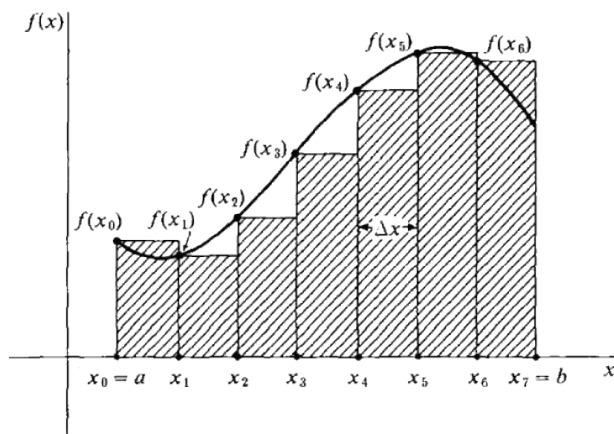
Build College Skills

Taking an AP course builds the skills you'll need throughout your college years. You give your mind a rigorous workout while polishing up your time management and study skills. You also get better at handling challenging issues and problems, with the support of your AP teachers

Source: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/exploreap/the-rewards>

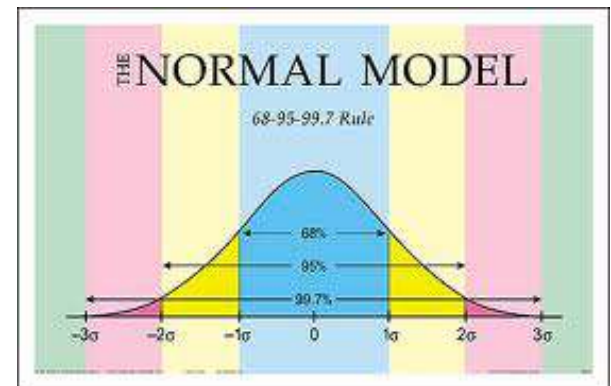
A.P. Calculus

- AP Calculus is for students who are strong in mathematics and who are thinking about majors and careers in mathematics and science.
- A graphing calculator is a must!! There are many problems done in and out of class that won't just be more difficult, they actually cannot be completed without a graphing calculator!
- The summer assignment will be assessed within the first week of school. Students should not be surprised if it is assessed on the first day.
- Students need to be well organized and have a 3 ring binder. There are lots of handouts from past AP tests that students need to keep in their binder.
- We will be working out of 3 different text books and 2 different workbooks.



A.P. Statistics

- You should choose AP Statistics if you plan on majoring in health or sciences, social sciences, business, education, journalism or any other subject that collects data, analyzes that data and uses the results to make informed decisions.
- Any student who has successfully completed Algebra II has the foundation necessary to be successful in AP Statistics
- A graphing calculator is a must!! There are many problems done in and out of class that actually cannot be completed without a graphing calculator!
- There will be reading and writing involved, unlike other math classes.
- The summer assignment will be assessed within the first week of school. Students should not be surprised if it is assessed on the first day.



SOCIAL STUDIES AP COURSE OFFERINGS

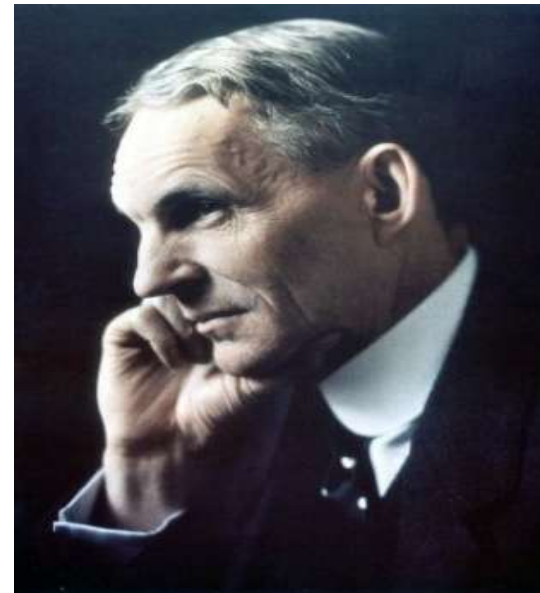


- Social Studies/History offers three AP courses
- AP United States History (11th grade)
- AP European History (12th grade)
- AP Psychology (12th grade/some 11th grade)
- Last year 81 out of 177 Qualifying scores from NHS Social Studies Department (46 percent of total qualifying scores at NHS)

Source: NHS District Report Card



AP US HISTORY



What is the course designed for?

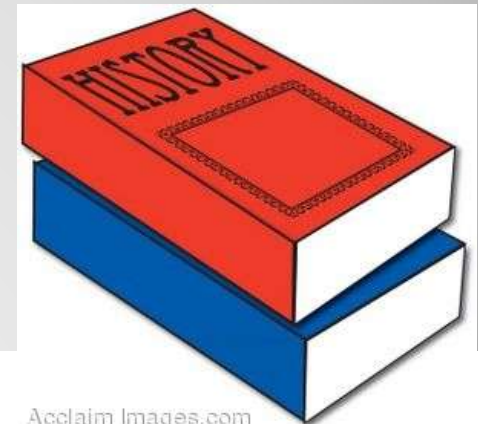
- Provide students with the analytical skills and factual knowledge necessary to deal critically with problems and materials in US history
- Prepares students for intermediate and advanced college courses by making demands upon them equivalent to those of full-year introductory college courses
- Students learn to assess historical materials and weigh evidence
- Develops student skills necessary to arrive at conclusions on the basis of informed judgments and to present reason clearly and persuasively in essay format

What are the expectations in the class?

- Reading: textbook at the rate of a chapter a week and assigned supplementary readings
- Note-taking: on lecture powerpoints, discussions, and supplementary readings, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SOURCES
- Participation: in class discussions, simulations, debates, etc.
- Writing: writing of synthesis essays on a regular basis including Short/Long Answer essays and Document Based Essays
- Presentations and Projects: teaching certain topics of historical significance to the rest of the class

Who can do well in AP US?

- If you are motivated, organized, and self-disciplined you can do well
- If you are interested in reading history, you can do well
- If you have done well in prior English and History courses, you can do well
- If you have a general appreciation for History and are willing to work extremely hard, you can do well.



Acclaim Images.com

AP Test Format First Friday in May(3 Hours)

- 55 multiple choice from primary and secondary sources
- Document Based Essay Question
- Long Answer Essay Question
- Four Short Answer Essay Questions

**Last Year 44 out of 65 students
got a 3, 4 or 5– 68 percent
national average was only 49
percent (NHS plus nineteen
percent vs national scores !!!)**

AP EUROPEAN HISTORY

The study of European History since 1450!

Introduces students to cultural, economic, and political events that play a fundamental role in shaping the world in which they live.

Creates a great understanding of the relationship between, not only European nations, but all nations of the world.

Prepares students for college level history coursework.

Did you love World History II?

Do you have an interest in European Culture and Civilization?



AP EUROPEAN HISTORY TEST



Same EXACT format as the AP US History test!

55 Multiple Choice Questions

1 Data Based Essay Question

1 Long Essay Question

4 Short Answer Questions

**Held the first Friday in May, 12:00 pm
(3 hours)**

WHY AP EUROPEAN HISTORY?

Perfect for any college bound student who has an interest in history.

A good fit for any AP US student who wishes to get their history prerequisite completed before even stepping foot on a college campus!*

Follows the Western Civilization Curriculums of most 2 and 4 year colleges!

AP Scores of a 3, 4 and 5 are widely accepted

AP Psychology

Mr. Greene



Why Take AP Psychology?

- Learn more about yourself and others
- Psychology truly relates to your life

Have you ever. . .

- Been tricked by magic?
- Wondered why you had a bad dream, and what it meant?
- Studied all night for an exam, and still bombed?
- Wanted to reduce your stress?
- Wanted to catch a liar?
- Why so many people act different than you?
- Changed your personality when you go to a place where you don't know anyone?
- Had road rage?
- Raised your hand to answer and/or ask a question?
- Regretted not taking a valuable course in high school?

Not Only Do We Have Fun. . . We Perform!

- Last year 33 out of 40 students got a 3, 4, or 5. (83%)
- National Average was 66%.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- There are NO prerequisites (you do NOT have to take semester psychology)
- You do NOT get a lot of homework
- You can take this course as a Junior or Senior

AP Physics 2 – Course Overview

AP Physics 2 is an algebra-based, introductory college-level physics course. Students cultivate their understanding of Physics through inquiry-based investigations as they explore the following topics:

- Electrostatics
- Electrical Circuits
- Magnetism
- Thermodynamics
- Fluid Statics and Dynamics
- Optics
- Atomic and Nuclear Physics

PREREQUISITE: ▪ Completed Physics

- Completed or concurrently taking Pre-Calculus

AP Physics 2 – Laboratory Focus

Twenty-five percent of instructional time is devoted to hands-on laboratory work with an emphasis on inquiry-based investigations. Investigations will require students to:

- Ask questions
- Design experiments
- Make observations and predictions
- Analyze data
- Construct arguments

AP Chemistry – Course Overview

- This fast-paced second year Chemistry course covers the equivalent of a first year Chemistry course at the collegiate level, including all appropriate lab work.
- This course is designed for the highly motivated student and relies heavily on retention of concepts learned in a first-year Chemistry course and Algebra.

PREREQUISITES

Students must have successfully completed first year Chemistry. It is recommended that they received at least a B in Honors Chemistry or an A in College Prep level, although this is not mandatory. Strong math skills are a must.

AP Chemistry— Expectations

- Expectations include both independent study and working with others, reading a college-level text and self-motivation.
- Students are required to attend a meeting prior to summer break, where they will receive a summer assignment. This assignment is due the first day of class.
- For each Major Unit, Approximately 3 per Term, students are required to attend one-2 hour group study session after school.
- AP Chemistry will require an average of 2 hours of homework / study per each 90 minute class period.

AP Chemistry – Scores

2011, 2013 and 2014 – 45 students

Passing (3, 4 or 5) = 69.0 % as compared to a National
pass rate of 54.9 %

AP Biology

AP Biology is an introductory college-level biology course. Students cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigations as they explore how each of the following “Big Ideas” apply to living things:

1. Evolution3. Genetics & Information
2. Energy4. Systems & Interactions

Units:

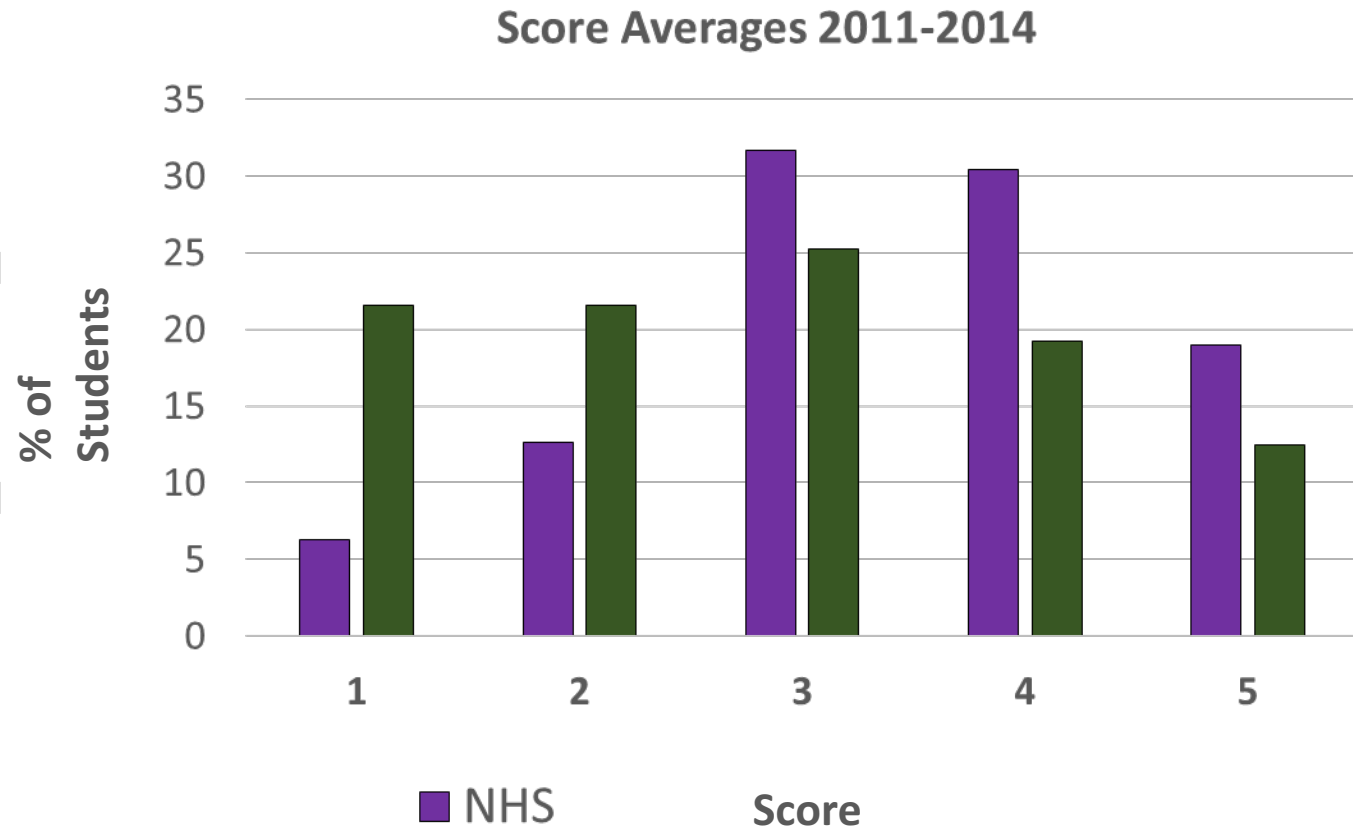
1. Ecology5. Heredity
2. Chemistry of Life6. Molecular Heredity
3. Cells7. Evolution
4. Cellular Energetics8. Structure & Function of Plants & Animals

PREREQUISITE: Students must have successfully completed Biology. It is recommended that students also successfully complete Chemistry, however students may take it concurrently.

AP Biology – NHS Student Performance on Exam

NHS 2011-2014

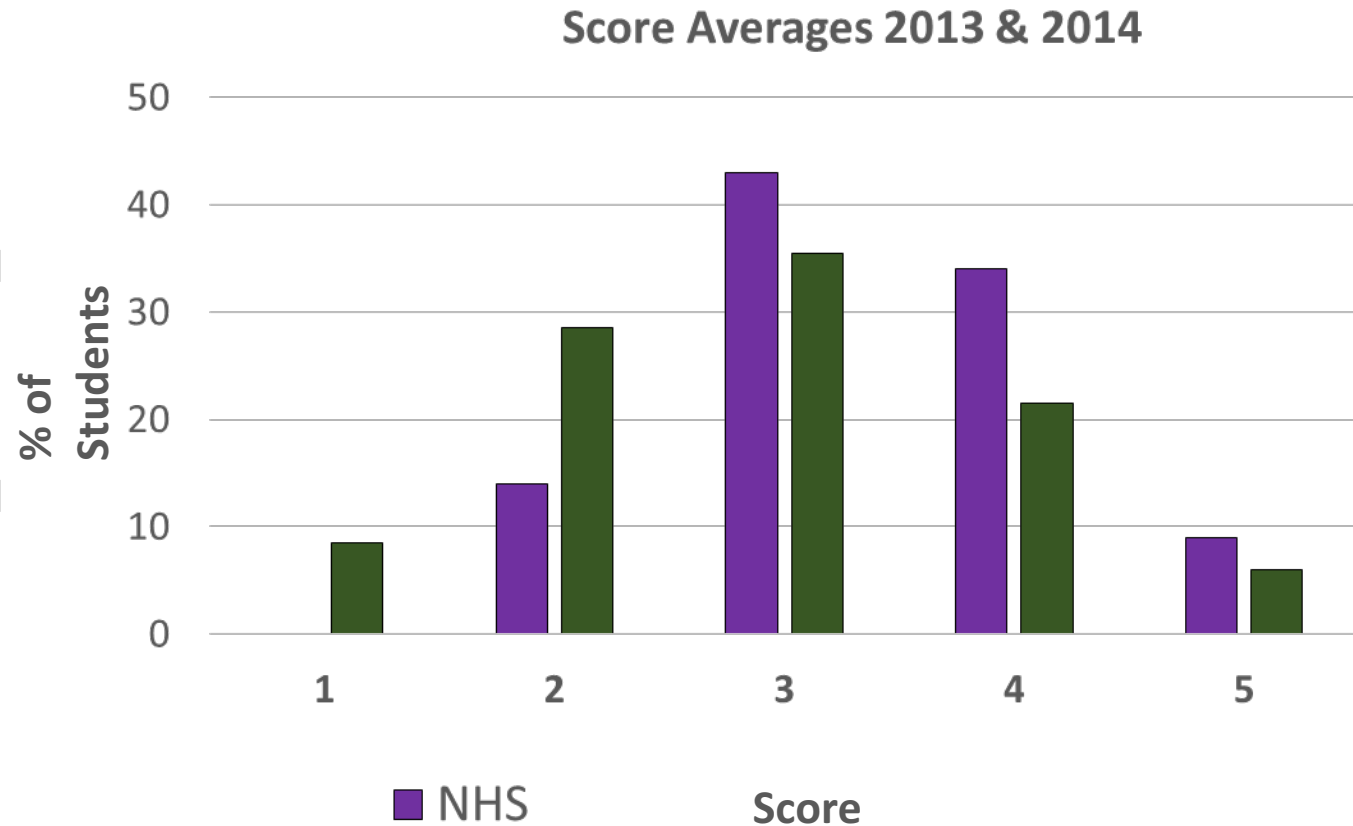
- 79 Students
- 81% of Students Earned Qualifying Score (64 Students)
- 49% of Students Earned a 4 or 5 on the Exam (39 Students)



AP Biology – Student Performance Since College Board Curriculum Revision

NHS 2013 & 2014

- 44 Students
- 86% of Students Earned Qualifying Score (38 Students)
- 43% of Students Earned a 4 or 5 on the Exam (19 Students)



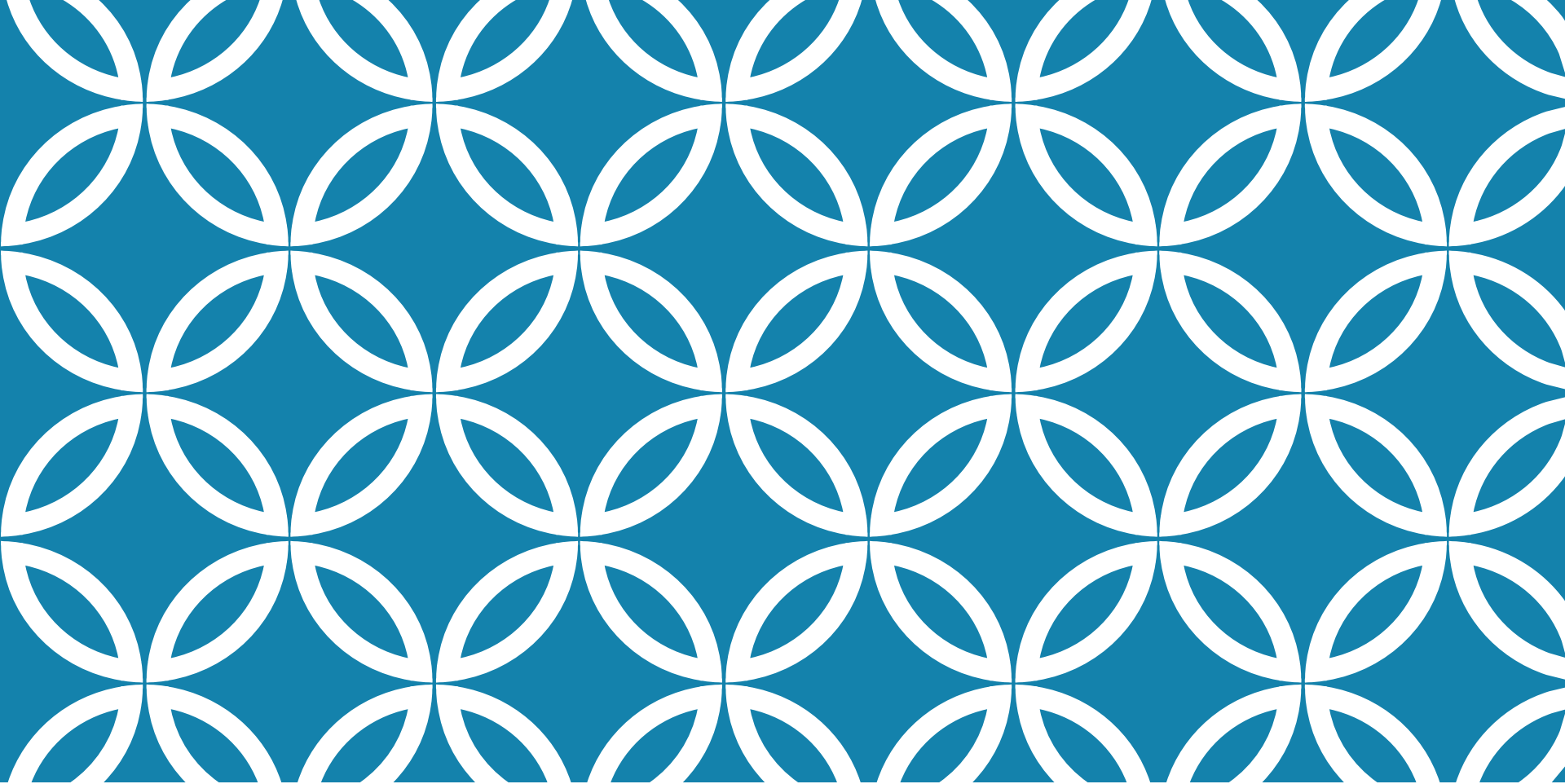


AP Environmental Science (APES)

- The goal of the AP Environmental Science course :
 - provide students with scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world,
 - to identify and analyze environmental problems both natural and man-made,
 - to evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and to examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them.

5 Reasons to take APES

- **Variety:** Environmental science intertwines all of the sciences (biology, earth science, chemistry, and physics) into one.
- **Practical Applications:** Environmental science offers "down to Earth" (no pun intended) ways to be more environmentally friendly with your lifestyle.
- **Career Opportunities:** Environmental science is the foundation for tons of careers in the fields of water treatment, manufacturing mining, oil & gas, agriculture, and so many more. Almost any career path you are thinking of going into can benefit from environmental science. 87 Careers and 36 Majors
- **Hands-On Learning:** This class has been designed to teach you, the student, through hands-on labs, case studies, and field investigations.
- **Potential College Credit:** Like other "AP" classes, at the end of the semester, you will have the opportunity to take the AP Environmental Science test. With a high enough test score (usually a 4 or 5) you will likely receive college credit for taking this course.



AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION

Junior Year

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students in this class will:

Follow the Junior English curriculum: American Literature

Study the art of persuasion through the use of rhetoric and logic

Analyze author's use of style, language, and tone

Complete several practice AP essays and multiple choice tests

EXPECTATIONS

Students will be expected to:

Read approximately 50-75 pages per class

Write multiple drafts of the same essay, effectively self-editing and peer editing

Write several essays per term, including multiple research papers

Create meaningful discussion questions from each reading selection with which to lead class discussions

Participate regularly in class discussions

Be self-motivated in the learning process, taking diligent notes both in and out of class

ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION

Norton High
School

EXAMINATION OVERVIEW

- **Skills-Based Test**
- **60 minutes: Multiple Choice Questions based on selections of poetry and prose (52-60)**
- **120 minutes: Essays**
 - **Question 1: Poem Analysis**
 - **Question 2: Prose Analysis**
 - **Question 3: Open Response Prompt**

COURSE CANDIDATES HAVE...

- strong reading and writing skills
- a passion for literature and poetry
- experience in high level coursework (honors/AP)
- strong work ethic
- academic integrity
- strong communication skills

RESOURCES

- Mr. Godmintz, Mr. Kefor
- AP Central (College Board)
 - downloadable exams
 - scored student sample responses
 - rubrics

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT

- Students will read:

- *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini
- *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas Foster

Upon returning to school in September, students will compose an essay that synthesizes topics from both texts