



Advanced Placement Course Offerings at Myrtle Beach High School

Capstone

Seminar (YEARLONG)

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational literary and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

Research (YEARLONG)

AP Research allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest. Through this exploration, students design, plan, and conduct a year-long research based investigation to address a research question. In the AP Research course, students further their skills acquired in the AP Seminar course by understanding research methodology; employing ethical research practices; and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information as they address a research question. Students explore their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of the development of their scholarly work in a portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4000–5000 words (accompanied by a performance or exhibition of product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

English

AP English - Literature (YEARLONG) Prerequisite: English 3 Honors Note: If the student scores below a 77 during the first semester of this course, it is recommended that a conference be held with the student, parent, and guidance counselor in order to continue into the second semester. This course follows the curriculum prescribed by the College Board. AP English - Literature involves students in the study of literature and composition at the college level.

Students read and write literary analyses on literary classics (fiction and poetry). Students must possess strong skills in analytical reading and written expression. Most in-class writing assignments are timed. Students take the AP English - Literature examination in May.

AP English - Language (YEARLONG) Prerequisite: English 3 Honors Note: If the student scores below a 77 during first semester of this course, it is recommended that a conference be held with the student, parent, and guidance counselor in order to continue into the second semester. This course follows the curriculum prescribed by the College Board. AP English - Language involves students in the study of language and composition at the college level.

Science

AP BIOLOGY* (YEARLONG) Prerequisites: Biology 1 Honors, Chemistry Honors Note: If the student scores below a 77 the first semester of this course, it is recommended that a conference be held with the student, parent, and guidance counselor in order to continue into the second semester. This course follows the curriculum prescribed by the College Board and is designed to be the equivalent of an introductory-level college Biology course. The three major areas of study include molecules and cells, heredity and evolution, and organisms and populations. An emphasis will be placed on conducting and interpreting laboratory experiments to collect and analyze biological data. Students take the AP Biology examination in May.

AP Chemistry (YEARLONG)

AP Chemistry course provides students with a college level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry based investigations, as they explore topics such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics and equilibrium. Students take the AP Chemistry examination in May

AP Environmental (proposed 2018)

This course is designed to be an introductory college course in environmental science, through which students engage with the scientific principles, concepts, and methodologies required to understand the interrelationships of the natural world. The course requires that students identify and analyze natural and human-made environmental problems, evaluate the relative risks associated with these problems, and examine alternative solutions for resolving or preventing them. Environmental Science is interdisciplinary, embracing topics from geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry and geography. Students must have completed Biology, with a B or higher on the End of Course Exam.

History

AP Human Geography (YEARLONG) Grade Level: 9 Prerequisite: B+ or better in 8th grade Honors Social Studies course AND teacher recommendation This course follows the curriculum prescribed by the College Board and is designed to introduce highly motivated students to the

systematic study of the pattern and processes that have shaped human understanding, use, and alteration of Earth's surface. Students employ geographic themes to examine human social organization and its environmental consequences. They learn about the methods and tools geographers use in their science. Students take the AP Human Geography Exam in May. AP U.S.

Government and Politics (YEARLONG) Grade Level: 10 Prerequisite: Passing score in AP Human Geography AND teacher recommendation This course presents an analytical perspective on government and politics in the United States. Its goals are to help students develop a critical understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the American political system and recognize their rights and responsibilities as citizens. To achieve these objectives, the course will include both the study of general concepts used to interpret U.S. politics and analysis of specific examples. It also requires students to become familiar with the various institutions, groups, beliefs, and ideas that constitute the U.S. political system. Students will take the AP U.S. Government and Politics exam in May. This course satisfies a requirement from the SC Graduation Requirement.

AP U.S. History (YEARLONG) Grade Level: 11 Prerequisites: Passing score in AP Government or Economics AND teacher recommendation This course follows the curriculum prescribed by the College Board. It is an intensive study of the United States History, which includes critical analyses, historical interpretation, and extensive reading. Specific emphasis is placed on the social, economic, and political trends that have defined the history of the United States in domestic and foreign affairs. There is also a strong emphasis on document analysis and historical writing. Students take the AP US History exam in May and the SC End-of-Course Exam for United States History and Constitution at the end of this course.

AP MicroEconomics (YEARLONG) Grade Level: 10 Prerequisite: Passing score in AP Human Geography AND teacher recommendation

The AP Microeconomics courses provides students with an understanding of the principles of economics as they apply to individual decision-making units, including individual households and firms. The course examines the theory of consumer behavior , the theory of the firm, and the behavior of profit-maximizing firms under various market structures. The course also develops students' familiarity with the operation of product and factor markets, distributions of income, market failure, and the role of government in promoting greater efficacy and equity in the economy. Students learn to use graphs, charts, and data to analyze, describe, and explain economic concepts. Students will take the AP MicroEconomics exam in May. This course satisfies a requirement from the SC Graduation Requirement.

AP Psychology (Semester)

The AP Psychology course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of human behavior and mental processes. While considering the psychologists and studies that have shaped the field, students explore and apply psychological theories, key concepts, and

phenomena associated with such topics as the biological bases of behavior, sensation and perception, learning and cognition, motivation, developmental psychology, testing and individual differences, treatment of abnormal behavior, and social psychology. Throughout the course, students employ psychological research methods, including ethical considerations, as they use the scientific method, evaluate claims and evidence, and effectively communicate ideas.

Math

AP Statistics (YEARLONG) Prerequisite: Algebra 2 Honors Note: If the student scores below a 77 the first semester of this course, it is recommended that a conference be held with the student, parent, and guidance counselor in order to continue into the second semester. The topics covered in this college level course are divided into four major themes: exploratory analysis, planning study, probability, and statistical inference. Throughout the course, students will learn to develop plans, collect, and analyze data from a variety of sources using a number of mathematical models. Students will use TI-84 calculators as a technological supplement for this course. Students take the AP Statistics examination in May.

AP Calculus - AB (YEARLONG) Prerequisite: Pre-Calculus Honors Note: If the student scores below a 77 for the first semester of this course, it is recommended that a conference be held with the student, parent, and guidance counselor in order to continue into the second semester. This course follows the curriculum prescribed by the College Board and is intended for students who have a sophisticated knowledge of mathematics. Topics covered include function, graphs, limits, derivatives and their uses, and integration. Topics will be addressed through the use of technology as well as analytically, numerically, verbally, and graphically. A TI-89 calculator is strongly recommended. Students take the AP Calculus - AB examination in May.

AP Calculus - BC Prerequisite: AP Calculus AB Note: If the student fails the first semester of this course, it is recommended that a conference be held with the student, parent, and guidance counselor in order to continue into the second semester. This course follows the curriculum prescribed by the College Board and is intended for students who have a sophisticated knowledge of mathematics and who desire a more in-depth understanding of the mathematical concepts covered in AP Calculus - AB. Students in AP Calculus - BC will also explore several more advanced mathematical concepts unique to this course. Topics will be addressed through the use of technology as well as analytically, numerically, verbally, and graphically. A TI-89 calculator is strongly recommended. Students take the AP Calculus - BC examination in May.

Foreign Language

AP Spanish Language (YEARLONG) Prerequisite: Spanish 3 Honors, Teacher recommendation Note: If the student fails the first semester of this course, it is recommended that a conference be held with the student, parent, and guidance counselor in order to continue into the second semester. This course follows the curriculum prescribed by the College Board and is intended to provide students with an intensive foreign language learning experience. Students will learn by immersion, requiring the exclusive use of Spanish in the classroom. A

wide variety of authentic materials will be used in order to achieve mastery in listening and in reading. The student will have ample opportunities to practice and develop formal and informal registers of speaking and writing using universal themes, cultural situations, and varied discourses and settings, with the ultimate goal of preparing students to speak and write about issues of cultural and global importance in the Spanish speaking world. A diagnostic test as a means of determining students' strengths and areas of weakness will be administered within the first two weeks of the school year in order to customize instruction. Students take the AP Spanish Language examination in May

Art/ Fine Arts

AP Studio Art: 2D Design (Yearlong) Note: If the student fails the first semester of this course, it is recommended that a conference be held with the student, parent, and guidance counselor in order to continue into the second semester. In this course students will develop mastery in concept, composition and execution of 2D design. Students will learn a variety of concepts and approaches and learn to demonstrate a range of abilities and versatility with technique, problem-solving and ideation. The course will include group and individual student critiques and instructional conversations. Students will be required to create a portfolio that demonstrates Quality, Concentration and Breadth which will be submitted to the College Board for evaluation.

Art History (proposed 2018)

Art history is a two semester introductory college course that explores the nature of art, art making, and responses to art. By investigating specific course content of 250 works of art characterized by diverse artistic traditions from prehistory to the present, the course fosters in-depth, holistic understanding of the history of art from a global perspective. Students become active participants in the global art world, engaging with its forms and content. They experience, research, discuss, read and write about art, artists, art making, responses to, and interpretations of art. Students take the AP Art History examination in May.

Music Theory (Yearlong)

AP Music Theory is a typical introductory college music theory course that covers topics such as musicianship, theory, musical materials, and procedures. Musicianship skills, including dictation and other listening skills, sight singing, and harmony, are considered an important part of the course. Through the course, students develop the ability to recognize, understand and describe basic materials and processes of tonal music that are heard or presented in a score.

Development of aural skills is a primary objective. Performance is also part of the curriculum through the practices of sign singing. Students understand basic concepts and terminology by listening to and performing a wide variety of music. Notational skills, speed and fluency with basic materials are also emphasized. Students take the AP Music Theory examination in May.