



**Shelton High School
AP Courses
Student Expectation Form**



Student's Name: _____ **House office:** _____

Student's Email: _____ **ID#:** _____ **Grade:** _____

Courses Requested: _____

Current prerequisite courses (if applicable): _____

WHAT IS THIS FORM AND WHY DO YOU NEED TO COMPLETE IT?

The purpose of this document is to better prepare students and parents for AP courses. We want to provide our students and parents with information to aid them in determining what AP courses and how many AP courses a student should consider. We want to disclose the challenging nature of AP courses and ensure student and parent awareness of risks and commitments of this choice.

Additional information on AP programs is available at <https://ap.collegeboard.org/?navId=www-ap>

STUDENT AND PARENT SIGNATURES AT THE BOTTOM INDICATE UNDERSTANDING OF THE FOLLOWING:

- AP courses are higher-level (college-level) courses in which students will immerse themselves in intensive reading, writing and problem-solving assignments culminating in an end of year exam that may allow the student to gain college credit.
- AP courses are more rigorous than honors classes and will require more time and effort (in depth analysis and synthesis of material).
- Work may include but is not limited to independent reading, writing, research and projects.
- Consider the following guidelines prior to enrolling in AP Courses:
 - Student works well independently and effectively communicates in small groups
 - Student exhibits strong work habits, time management and study skills.
 - Student must possess strong academic skills and passion for the subject
 - Student will take the AP test at the end of the year with the expectation the exam will be taken seriously

Student's Initials Parent Initials I understand that....

_____ I agree to commit the necessary amount of time to prepare for the class
_____ I agree to proactively communicate with & seek help from teachers
_____ I agree to monitor my progress in Infinite Campus on a weekly basis
_____ I agree to practice a higher level of academic integrity
_____ I agree to work effectively and respectfully with peers.

I, the parent/guardian of _____, have read and reviewed the contents of the Advanced Placement Courses Expectations with my child. We understand that all courses require a year-long commitment and we believe that he/she is prepared for the AP courses that have been selected.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ **Date** _____

Student Signature _____ **Date** _____

Why am I considering an AP course?

The Right Reasons

- Love the Subject
- Want to learn more about the subject
- Want to go in more depth in this area

Wrong Reasons

- Looks good on my transcript
- All my friends are taking it
- I am feeling pressured to take it

How much time do I have to devote to these courses?

- Do I have a job?
- Do I participate in a sport or activity?
- Do I do volunteer work?
- Do I have responsibilities at home?
- Do I have the time required to do well in each AP Course?

Questions to consider and discuss before you register

Before you meet individually with your counselor, be sure that you have seriously considered the following questions and discussed them with your parents. While no one expects to be overwhelmed by too many commitments, it does happen.

- Am I taking the course(s) for the right reasons?
- Do I have enough time in the day for all these commitments?
- How committed am I to doing well in this course even when it proves a challenge to me?
- How quickly/efficiently do I complete my homework?
- Have I considered the cumulative effect of taking multiple Honors/AP courses?
- What will happen if the course load is difficult and I cannot change my schedule?
- Would I be willing to adjust my employment schedule?
- Would I be satisfied with a grade less than a "B"?

Signing up for an AP course is a yearlong commitment. Once you are registered for the course you are expected to complete the course and take the AP exam. Dropping an AP course should be a rare circumstance.