



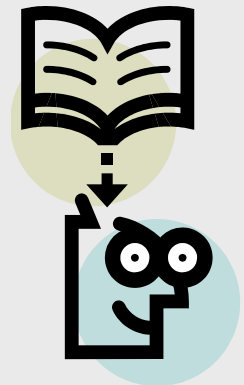
SMITHSON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ADVANCED ACADEMICS

www.GenTX.org

- ▶ Generation Texas is a statewide, grassroots movement focused on creating a culture of college and career education that leads to the most successful generation ever.
- ▶ This presentation will give students and parents an idea of how to prepare for and possibly earn college credits while attending high school.

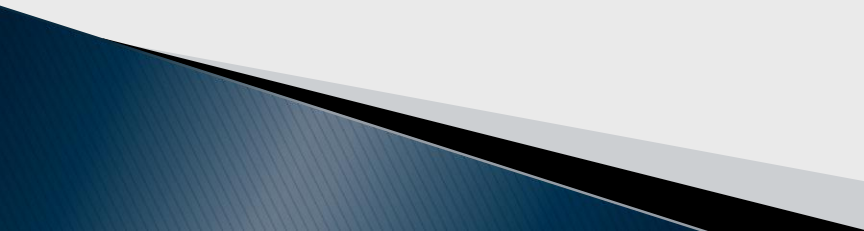
ADVANCED ACADEMIC CHOICES

- ▶ Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP) Courses
- ▶ Advanced Placement (AP) Courses
- ▶ Dual Credit (DC) Courses

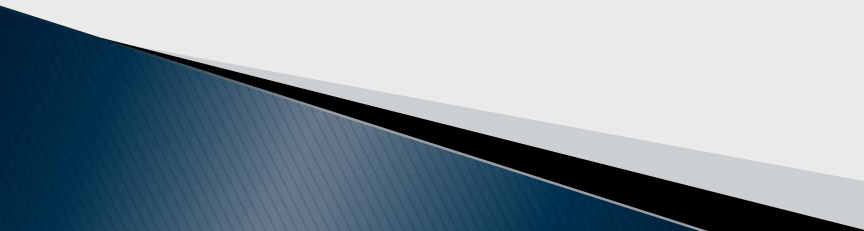


Pre-Advanced Placement


What is Pre-AP?

- ▶ These courses include activities and strategies designed to engage students in active, high-level learning.
 - ▶ Depth of material requires students to read and write extensively in and out of class.
 - ▶ Level of rigor is high so students need to be prepared and find a balance between academics and extra-curricular activities.
 - ▶ Leads to success in AP and Dual Credit coursework.
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Pre-AP courses offered at SVHS:

- ▶ English I and English II
 - ▶ Geometry, Algebra II, PreCalculus
 - ▶ Biology, Chemistry, Physics
 - ▶ World Geography
 - ▶ French II and French III
 - ▶ German II and German III
 - ▶ Spanish II and Spanish III
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Please consider when choosing advanced courses for next year:

1. The English PreAP/AP courses have required summer reading
 2. PreAP and AP courses have “open” enrollment, but there are strict policies regarding dropping the course
 3. Help your child choose courses wisely with consideration for his or her overall schedule and areas of passion
 4. Time management and self-discipline are crucial
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Advanced Placement



THE ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

- ▶ College Board's Advanced Placement Program enables students to pursue college-level studies while still in high school.
- ▶ Eighteen AP courses and exams are offered at Smithson Valley High School.
- ▶ Based on their performance on rigorous AP Exams, students can earn college credit at most colleges and universities in the United States and Canada as well as colleges and universities in 40 other countries.

Texas AP Facts & Information

Source: Texas Education Agency News Releases; Feb. 9, 2011, Sept. 28, 2011

- ▶ The Texas AP program is growing rapidly.
- ▶ More Texans earned high scores on AP exams in 2010 than participated in the entire program in 2001.
- ▶ 186,576 Texas seniors took at least 1 AP exam during their high school years in 2010 and over half of them earned a score of 3–5.

Texas AP Facts & Information

Source: Texas Education Agency News Releases; Feb. 9, 2011, Sept. 28, 2011

- ▶ The five AP exams taken most frequently by Texas public school students are:
 1. English Language & Composition
 2. United States History
 3. English Literature & Composition
 4. World History
 5. Spanish Language

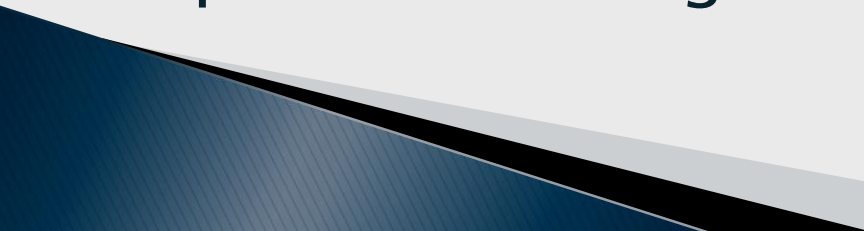
AP courses offered at SVHS:

- ▶ English III
- ▶ English IV
- ▶ Calculus AB
- ▶ Calculus BC
- ▶ Statistics
- ▶ Biology
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Physics
- ▶ Environmental Science
- ▶ World History
- ▶ U.S. History
- ▶ U.S. Government
- ▶ Macroeconomics
- ▶ French IV
- ▶ German IV
- ▶ Spanish IV
- ▶ History of Art
- ▶ Studio Art

Responsibilities of AP Students

- ▶ A willingness to actively engage with sophisticated concepts
- ▶ A willingness to complete longer and more complex nightly assignments
- ▶ Students enrolled in an AP course are **required** to take the corresponding AP exam in May in order to fulfill the requirements of the course

Benefits of the AP Program for students?

- ▶ Gain college–level analytical and study skills
 - ▶ Colleges/universities consider a student's AP experience when making admission decisions
 - ▶ Students may earn college credit and/or placement at colleges and universities based on their exam scores
 - ▶ Texas and Comal ISD share the cost of the exams with the students
 - ▶ Saves students time and money as they pursue a college education
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AP Exams and Scores

- ▶ Administered on specific dates in early May
- ▶ Consist of multiple choice and free-response questions
- ▶ Scores of 1–5 with 3 and above potentially earning college credit
- ▶ AP Grade Reports are sent in July to students, high schools, and colleges designated by individual students
- ▶ AP honors and recognition for amount of high scores earned

Dual Credit

What is Dual Credit?

- ▶ The Dual Credit Program at SVHS allows a student the opportunity to earn college credit through St. Philip's College while simultaneously earning credit toward high school graduation.
- ▶ A college level course that counts as credit for both high school and college.

Benefits of the Dual Credit Program for students?

- ▶ Enables students who meet eligibility requirements to enroll in college courses and earn college credits while completing their high school requirements
- ▶ Colleges/universities consider a student's DC experience when making admission decisions
- ▶ DC hours *may* transfer to other colleges/universities
- ▶ Sophomores are allowed to enroll in 1 DC course per semester and Juniors & Seniors are allowed to enroll in 2 DC courses per semester *free of charge*
- ▶ *If courses are chosen wisely*, it could save students time and money as they pursue a college education

DC courses offered at SVHS:

- ▶ English III–
ENGL 1301 /1302
- ▶ English IV–
ENGL 2322 /2323
- ▶ College Algebra–
MATH 1314
- ▶ Anatomy &
Physiology–
BIOL 2401 /2402
- ▶ Spanish III–
SPAN 1411 /1412
- ▶ Spanish IV–
SPAN 2311 /2312
- ▶ Business
Information
Management–
ITSW 1301 /1310

To be eligible for Dual Credit Courses, the student must:

1. Complete the forms in the Dual Credit packet and return to Student Services by *December 16th*.
2. Students must apply to St. Philip's College through www.applytexas.org by *December 16th*. (Assistance available Dec. 6&7 and 13&14 during lunch and after school)
3. Students must earn qualifying test scores on 10th or 11th grade TAKS, SAT or ACT, or Accuplacer. (Accuplacer will be given January 5th–19th with specific dates/times posted in Student Services – testing must be complete by January 21st)

Please consider when choosing Dual Credit courses for next year:

- ▶ The grade earned will be placed on the college transcript.
- ▶ A “C” or better will earn college credit. If a student earns a “D” or “F”, the student will not be allowed to enroll in another dual credit course during high school.
- ▶ Drop dates and policies are very important.
 1. Withdrawing after the published deadline will result in a “W” being placed on the college transcript and possible suspension from financial aid due to a low college course completion rate (per U.S. Dept. of Education–Satisfactory Academic Progress).
 2. Undergraduate students are permitted a total of 6 dropped courses (per Texas Education Code).

Continued: Please consider when choosing Dual Credit courses for next year:

- ▶ Excess semester credit hours attempted by a student are not funded by the State of Texas. Therefore, if a student exceeds by at least 30 hours the number of semester credit hours required for the degree program, the student will be charged higher tuition.
- ▶ The State of Texas offers tuition rebates to qualified resident student who complete their degree program in four years and within 3 attempted credit hours .

Texas DC Facts & Information

Source: Texas Education Agency Research Study; March 2011

- ▶ Dual Credit enrollment increased from 71,803 in 2007–08 to 94,232 in 2009–10.
- ▶ More than 90% of courses for dual credit are offered by Texas community colleges.
- ▶ Most students who enroll in dual credit courses are in grades 11 and 12. In 2009–10, approximately 17% of high school seniors and 11% of high school juniors enrolled in DC.

What are the differences?

AP

vs.

DC

- ▶ Must test in May to earn college credit
 - ▶ Acceptance at some colleges/universities throughout the nation with typically a score of 3 or higher
 - ▶ College/university may give the student the option to “accept” the AP college credits
- ▶ Complete and pass the course and college credit earned
 - ▶ Acceptance at some public colleges/universities and degree programs in Texas
 - ▶ Courses and grades that transfer cannot be denied regardless of whether or not they apply to the degree plan

AP

vs.

DC

(continued)

- ▶ Open enrollment
 - ▶ AP exam cost to student is minimal
 - ▶ One Advanced Measure earned per course for Distinguished Achievement graduation program with a score of 3 or higher
 - ▶ Weighted rank points
- ▶ Must complete DC application process and qualify to enroll
 - ▶ DC is free of charge to student
 - ▶ One Advanced Measure earned per semester course for Distinguished Achievement graduation program with a grade of “B” or higher
 - ▶ Weighted rank points

To check AP credit policy at colleges/universities:

<http://collegesearch.collegeboard.com/apcreditpolicy/index.jsp>

To check course compatibility when comparing DC courses from St. Philip's to other Texas colleges/universities:

www.tccns.org