



**An Introduction to the
Advanced Placement Program®**

HENRY FORD II HIGH SCHOOL

Welcome

HENRY FORD II HIGH SCHOOL is committed
to every student's success.

We believe access to rigorous course work such as Advanced Placement® (AP®) plays an important role in that success.

Mr. Cucchi – Principal

Mrs. Schodowski, Dr. Blum – AP Coordinators





What Are Advanced Placement[®] Courses?

Advanced Placement[®]: The Basics

- AP[®] courses are college-level courses offered in high school
- Courses reflect what is taught in top introductory college courses
- Students take **AP Exams** at the end of the course, measuring their mastery of college-level work
- A score of 3 or higher on an AP exam can typically earn students college credit and/or placement into advanced courses in college (www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy)

Our AP[®] Courses

- **Arts:** Art History, Studio Art: Drawing Portfolio, Studio Art: 2-D Design Portfolio, Studio Art: 3-D Design Portfolio
- **English:** English Language and Composition (11TH GRADE), English Literature and Composition (12TH GRADE)
- **History and Social Sciences:** Macro/Micro Economics, Psychology, United States Government and Politics, United States History, **World History, Human Geography**
- **Mathematics and Computer Science:** Calculus AB, Calculus BC, **Computer Science Principles, Computer Science A, Statistics**
- **Sciences:** Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science, Physics B, Physics C: Mechanics, Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism
- **World languages:** French Language and Culture, German Language and Culture, Spanish Language and Culture

(Classes in Bold for Grades 9-12)

AP[®] at HFII

- **440 students at HFII took 747 AP tests in 2017**
- In 2017, HFII had 56 AP Scholars
- AP Scholars demonstrate superior college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. AP Scholars are students who receive scores of 3 or higher on four or more AP Exams and carry a 3.667 or higher GPA. They receive an award certificate and achievement is acknowledged on any AP score report that is sent to colleges the following fall.
- 366 of AP exams taken in 2017 at HFII earned a score of 3 or better – resulting in college credit for those students.
- AP courses are given a 0.5 point GPA increase
(A = 4.500, A- = 4.167, B+ = 3.833, B = 3.5, etc.)



AP[®]: The Benefits

AP[®]: The Benefits

- Students learn rigorous college-level content and skills
- Taking AP is valued in the college admission process
- AP courses are interesting and rewarding academic experiences
- Opportunity to earn valuable credit and placement in college



AP[®]: Skills & Advantages that Last a Lifetime

- Taking an AP course helps students build critical thinking skills, confidence, and the essential time management and study skills needed for college success
- **Nationally, research shows that students who score a 3 or higher on an AP Exam typically earn higher grade point averages in college and have higher graduation rates than their non-AP peers***

**2009, The College Board, "The Relationship Between AP Exam Performance and College Outcomes"*

AP[®] Helps Students Graduate on Time & Save Money

Students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely to complete a college degree on time.* **Graduating in four years represents a significant savings on the cost of college.**

- Only 1 in 4 college students completes a bachelor's degree in 4 years.
- The average cost of college for a single year is \$21,500** for in-state schools (tuition, fees, room/board, misc. expenses).

*College Outcomes Comparisons by AP and Non-AP High School Experiences, *The College Board, 2008*

***The College Board, Trends in College Pricing 2011, Figure 1*

AP[®]: A More Engaging Learning Experience

AP courses challenge students to work and participate at a higher level:

- Opportunities to explore topics in depth
- More time in and out of the classroom required to complete assignments and projects
- **High expectations for critical thinking, analysis, synthesis, evidence, multiple perspectives, and clear written and verbal communications**

AP[®]

AP[®] Exams

AP[®] Exam Fees

- **The exam fee for 2018 is \$98 per exam.**
- Assistance is available for eligible students with financial need:
 - The College Board offers a \$29 fee reduction per exam for eligible students with financial need.
 - *State of Michigan may provide assistance to cover the additional fee owed by low income students – this amount varies every year.*

Credit and Placement Opportunities

Each college and university has its own policies regarding AP[®] credit and placement. The College Board offers information about AP credit at thousands of college and universities at www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy.



The screenshot shows the CollegeBoard website's AP Credit Policy Info page. The page has a blue header with the CollegeBoard logo and navigation tabs for 'Transfer Board Tools', 'Wait for College', 'Find a College', 'Apply to College', and 'Pay for College'. Below the header, there are search filters for 'AP[®]' and 'AP Credit Policy Info'. A search bar is present with a 'School Name' field and a 'Go' button. Below the search bar, there are instructions: 'To begin your search, enter the name of the college or university or select a letter of the alphabet to find institutions that begin with that letter.' The page also includes a 'Years' section with links for 'AP Credit Policy Info', 'AP International Recognition', 'SAT Subject Registration', and 'Services for Students with Disabilities'. At the bottom, there are links for 'Site Map', 'Contact Us', 'About Us', 'Press', 'Careers', 'Link Tools', 'Consent', 'Terms of Use', and 'Privacy Policy', along with a TRUSTe logo.

- Search by school name or alphabetically
- Data for each school includes a direct link to that school's Web page detailing AP credit and placement policies
- A statement from the college or university about its AP policy

AP[®]

What is it like to take AP[®]?

Our School Offers Support for AP[®] Students

- *Group study sessions are offered before and after school as well as on the weekends throughout the school year*
- *Students get plenty of practice for the AP exam through in-class practice exams which are given throughout the school year*
- *World Language classes complete AP exam practice runs in the language lab before the AP exams*
- *Peer tutoring is offered through NHS*
- *AP Teachers can also be reached through email on a regular basis*

Our Students: Up Close & Personal

- Caroline Kumiega
- James Fidler
- Connor Hayes
- Bridgette Holtan



What skills are important to be successful in an AP Class?

- “You need to be willing to take the class. You have to be willing to do homework. You need to listen, you can’t wing the course.”
- “Organization, time management, good study habits, and patience”
- “Hard-worker, good listener, NO Procrastination”
- “It’s a commitment you have to be willing to make”

What kinds of advice and insight can you offer to new AP parents and students?

- “It gets better. The beginning may be challenging but once you get use to it, it’s not that bad.”
- “This can save you from taking it in college. If you’re willing to take the class, take it.”
- “It’s a lot different than what you’re use to and offers a great challenge”
- “AP is manageable if you make the commitment and work hard”

What can parents do to support their child's AP experiences and success?

- **Help them with time management**
- **Offer encouragement often!**
- **Provide additional resources as necessary (computer access, attend study groups)**
- **Help them manage the stress and stay organized.**



Next Steps: Help Your Child Make the Best Choices

Our Teachers: Up Close & Personal

Mr. Koehn – Human Geography

(Todd.Koehn@UticaK12.org)

Mr. Szlaga – World History

(William.Szlaga@UticaK12.org)

**Ms. Cushman – Computer Science
Principles**

(Jamie.Cushman@UticaK12.org)