

Myths v Reality

Myth

AP courses are for students who always get good grades.

Reality

AP courses are for any student who is academically prepared and motivated to take on college-level courses

Myth

AP courses are too stressful.

Reality

It's no secret that AP courses are challenging. But in collaborative classrooms and for subjects you care about, the support you receive from your classmates and teachers can help ease your worries, once you know you're committed and willing to do the work.

Myth

I can't take AP because the courses I need are not offered at my high school.

Reality

There may be opportunities to take AP courses outside of your high school. Talk to your counselor about taking a course online through an approved provider.

Myth

I can't take AP because no one has recommended me.

Reality

If you think you're ready to take an AP course, then you're ready to advocate for yourself—just talk to a teacher or counselor.

Myth

I can't afford to take an AP Exam.

Reality

AP aims to make exams affordable for everyone. Fee reductions for students with financial need, as well as state and federal subsidies, are available.

Myth

I don't think I will score high enough on the AP Exam to get college credit.

Reality

You don't need to score a 5. Many colleges grant credit — and placement as well — based on a 3 or better on an AP Exam.

Myth

Taking AP courses could hurt my GPA

Reality

Your decision to take an AP course shows admission officers that you're willing to take on the academic challenge of college-level course work and expectations.