

# Advanced Placement Program

## Regina Christian School



### What is Advanced Placement?

The Advanced Placement program includes college level classes regulated through the College Board. The College Board helps more than 7 million students prepare for successful transition to college through preparatory programs including the Advanced Placement program and SAT. At RCS it is an optional program designed to offer our students enrichment by encouraging students to dig deeper into subjects that interest them. The rigorous nature of the program helps high school students develop their communication and research skills and better prepare for their post-secondary studies. Most universities will grant credit in approved courses to students who achieve a 4 or 5 on international AP exams written in May of the grade 12 year. The mark attained on an AP exam will not affect the class mark that appears on a student's Ministry of Education transcript. The transcript mark reflects the achievement in meeting the outcomes of the Saskatchewan curriculum.

### Who should take AP courses?

Generally, a mark of 85% or greater in a prerequisite course is suggested for students who wish to take an AP course. More important is the student's motivation and commitment to the importance of academic rigor. To be successful, students should:

- enjoy a challenge
- have a well-developed work ethic
- be self-disciplined and self-motivated to achieve
- find learning stimulating and exciting
- have a teacher's recommendation
- have parental support and approval

### Difference Between AP and IB:

- Students can take 1 or more AP courses; students do not have to take all AP courses offered at a school.
- AP scores are granted after AP exams. Higher levels of rigor and critical thinking are expected of AP students.
- IB is a 2-year diploma program comprising of 13 courses.
- IB scores are based on coursework as well as the final IB exam. Higher levels of rigor and critical thinking are expected of IB students.

### How to Apply and Examination Fees

If you are planning to enrol in an English, Calculus, or Science AP course, follow the recommended AP plan as set out in this brochure. If you have an interest in AP Art, Chemistry or Physics, please speak to one of the subject's teachers or the high school admin office.

Check off the Enriched or AP class(es) of your choice on the official registration form. It is recommended that students should have attained at least an 85% average in prerequisites for the specific AP subject(s).

Consult with our school counsellor and/or the vice principal in regards to your overall education plan. Discuss your education plan (including your AP options) with a parent or guardian.

Teacher recommendations/references may be solicited.

The cost per student for each AP examination is about \$96 (U.S.). This fee is paid by Regina Christian School; however, each student will be asked to commit in the fall of grade 12 before exams are ordered. AP exams are in May.

## AP Calculus AB

This course includes concepts not covered in Calculus 30 (including extended applications of derivatives, and integrals). There will be higher expectations on students to complete homework and assignments and to study individually as the rigor of this course is substantially greater than that of Calculus 30.

Students wishing to take this course must be identified early in their grade nine year because of the accelerated math courses they must take prior to grade 12.

### **Mathematics Strand**

#### **Grade 9:**

Math 9\*

\*During the grade 9 year, possible AP candidates are identified by the math teachers.

#### **Grade 10:**

Foundations of Pre-Calculus 10 and Foundations 20

#### **Grade 11:**

Pre-Calculus 20 and Pre-Calculus 30

#### **Grade 12:**

AP Calculus 30 and Integral Calculus 30

## AP Science

AP science is not a single course but 3 separate courses. Students can take 1 or all 3. Each of these courses offers a more in depth look at the subject material than the regular version of the class and as a result each of the courses requires 2 classes to cover the material. Students wishing to take any of these must start taking prerequisite classes for the course in grade 10. Each of the courses has an increased lab component, and better prepares students who intend to do science related university degrees.

### **Science Strand**

#### **Grade 9:**

Science 9

\*During the grade 9 year, possible AP candidates are identified by the science teachers.

#### **Grade 10:**

Enriched Science 10 and Health Science 20 or Environmental Science 20

#### **Grade 11:**

AP Biology 30 and/or Physical Science 20

#### **Grade 12:**

AP Physics 30 and/or AP Chemistry 30

## AP English Literature & Composition

RCS students with an 85% or above may automatically be enrolled in the Enriched and AP English courses. Students who like the rigor of this course, but do not meet the 85% cut-off average, may choose to enter the ELA AP program. We recommend students interested in writing the AP English Literature and Composition exam enroll in the Enriched ELA program for preparation. In Saskatchewan, all grade 12 students are required to complete English Language Arts A30 (Canadian literature and composition) and ELA B30 (world literature). The AP course in English literature and composition is an extension of these two courses. Students in the AP program will be expected to do a significant amount of reading, writing, research, and discussion in preparation for the AP exam. Students should, therefore, have an interest in literature and be willing to do the extra work.

Students will be taught to evaluate a variety of literature, both Christian and secular, and will discuss societal values and issues from a Christ-centered perspective and Biblical mindset.

### **English Language Arts Strand**

#### **Grade 9:**

ELA A9 and ELA B9\*

\*During the grade 9 year, possible AP candidates are identified by the ELA teachers.

#### **Grade 10:**

Enriched ELA A10 and Enriched ELA B10

#### **Grade 11:**

Enriched ELA and Creative Writing 20\*\*

\*\*It is recommended that all Enriched students register for Creative Writing 20 in addition to ELA 20 as ELA 20 is required for only one semester.

#### **Grade 12:**

AP ELA B30 and AP ELA A30