



Growing Your AP Program with Purpose

for North Dakota AP Coordinators

Presented in partnership with



November 4, 2025

Your North Dakota Team



Davonne Eldredge
Assistant Director
deldredge@nd.gov



Mandi Isaacs
Director, K-12
misaacs@collegeboard.org
765-265-4255

Housekeeping

All registrants will have access to a recording of the webinar that will be sent out after today's webinar and placed on North Dakota Department of Public Instruction's website.

Please drop your questions into the Q&A during the presentation. We will address these at the end of the webinar as time permits.

If your question is not answered during our time today, we'll follow-up via email.

AP Webinars for North Dakota Educators

Join us for monthly sessions addressing timely topics and answering your questions.



SETTING UP YOUR AP YEAR

August 12, 2025 | 3:30–4:15 p.m. CT

Launch your AP program with confidence. Learn best practices for enrollment, access codes, and key tasks.



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September 9, 2025 | 3:30–4:15 p.m. CT

Navigate the AP Registration and Ordering system. Perfect for both new and returning coordinators.



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Get the most out of AP Classroom with a live demo highlighting practical tips and strategies.



COUNSELOR TOOLS AND STRATEGIES

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Check in on midyear deadlines and AP Coordinator Manual updates.

AP SUCCESS IN SMALL AND RURAL SCHOOLS

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Learn creative, practical approaches to AP implementation in small and rural settings.

AP PROGRAM SUPPORT: STATE FUNDING

March 3, 2026 | 3:30–4:15 p.m. CT

Resources for supporting your AP team and accessing ND AP funding and reimbursement.

FINISH THE YEAR STRONG: AP EXAM TIPS

April 2, 2026 | 3:30–4:15 p.m. CT

Prepare for AP Exams with reminders, tips, and best practices for smooth administration.

[Register Here](#)

ND DPI Website – Access Past Webinar Resources

The image displays three overlapping screenshots of the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (ND DPI) website, illustrating the steps to access past webinar resources.

Top Screenshot: Shows the homepage with the "Education Programs" menu highlighted. The "Academic Support Programs" sub-menu is also visible.

Middle Screenshot: Shows the "Academic Support Programs" page. The "AP Student Exam Fees" link is highlighted in the left sidebar. The main content area shows the "Advanced Placement Student Exam Fees" page.

Bottom Screenshot: Shows the "AP Student Exam Fees" page. The "2025-2026 Webinar Series Schedule" link is highlighted in the left sidebar. The main content area shows the "2025-2026 Webinar Series Schedule" page.

Navigation Path: Home / Education Programs / Academic Support Programs / Advanced Placement Student Exam Fees

2025-2026 Webinar Series Schedule

- October 9, 2025 - Counselor Tools and Strategies for ND AP Coordinators and Counselors
 - [Counselor Tools and Strategies for ND AP Coordinators and Counselors](#) Recording
 - [Counselor Tools and Strategies for ND AP Coordinators and Counselors](#) slide deck
- September 10, 2025 - Making AP Classroom Work for You
 - [Making AP Classroom Work for You with North Dakota AP Educators](#) Recording
- September 9, 2025 - Preparing for APRO
 - [Preparing for APRO](#) Recording
 - [Preparing for APRO Slide Presentation](#)
- August 2025 - Setting Up Your AP Year
 - [Setting Up Your AP Year](#) Recording

Session Goals



Understand the Value of AP Participation



Overview of AP Precalculus and AP Seminar



Hear from schools implementing these courses

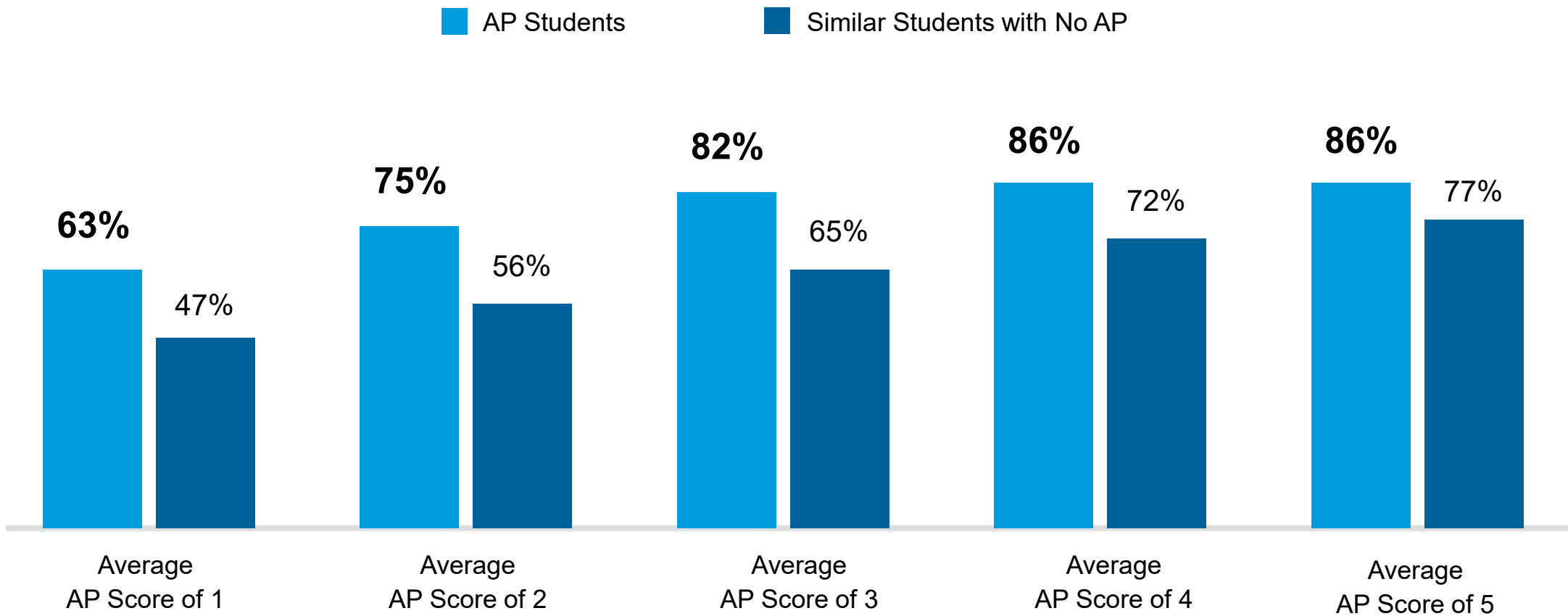
Section 01

The Value of AP

AP Students are More Likely to Enroll in College

Taking AP Exams signals being on the path to college.

Four-Year College Enrollment Probabilities, by Average AP Score

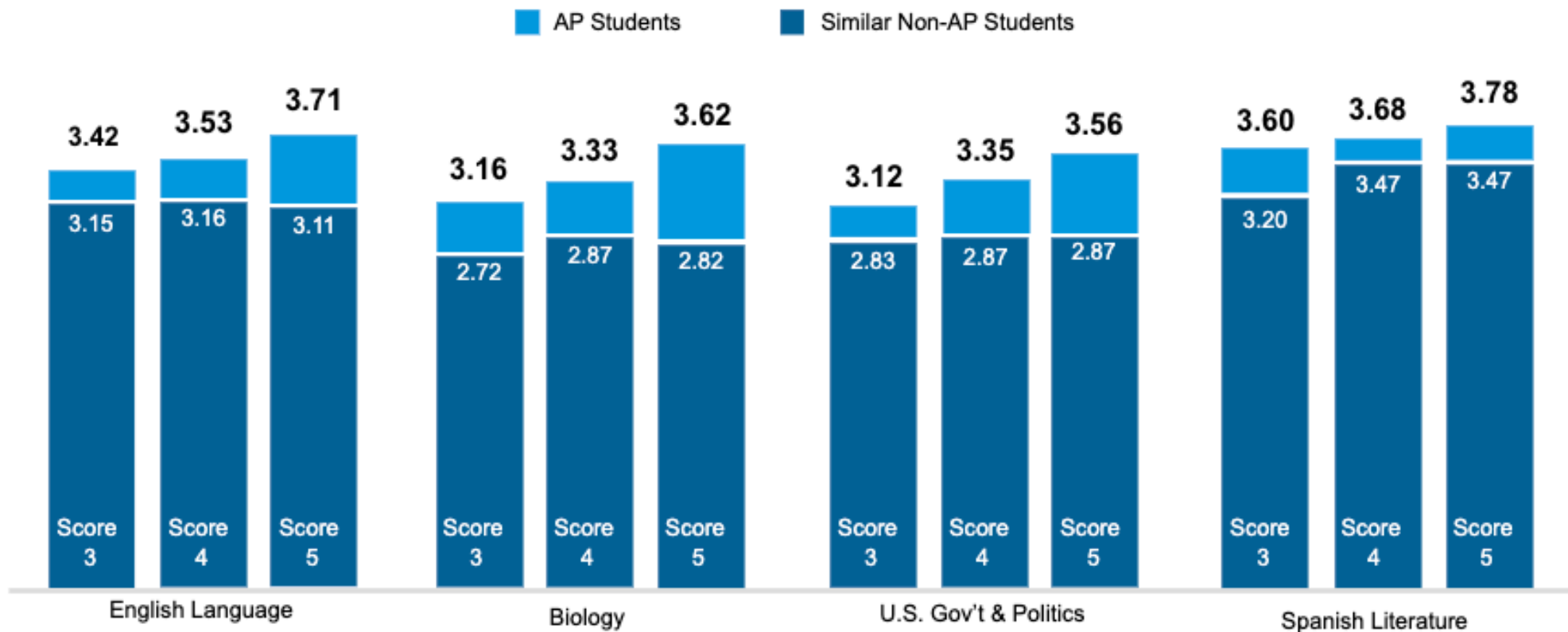


NOTES: Probabilities of enrollment immediately after high school graduation are calculated for 1,560,229 students who graduated high school in 2017. Probabilities are calculated separately for white, female, not first-generation students in each AP score sample based on average SAT, HSGPA, and number of AP Exams offered in school. All differences between AP and non-AP students are statistically significant.

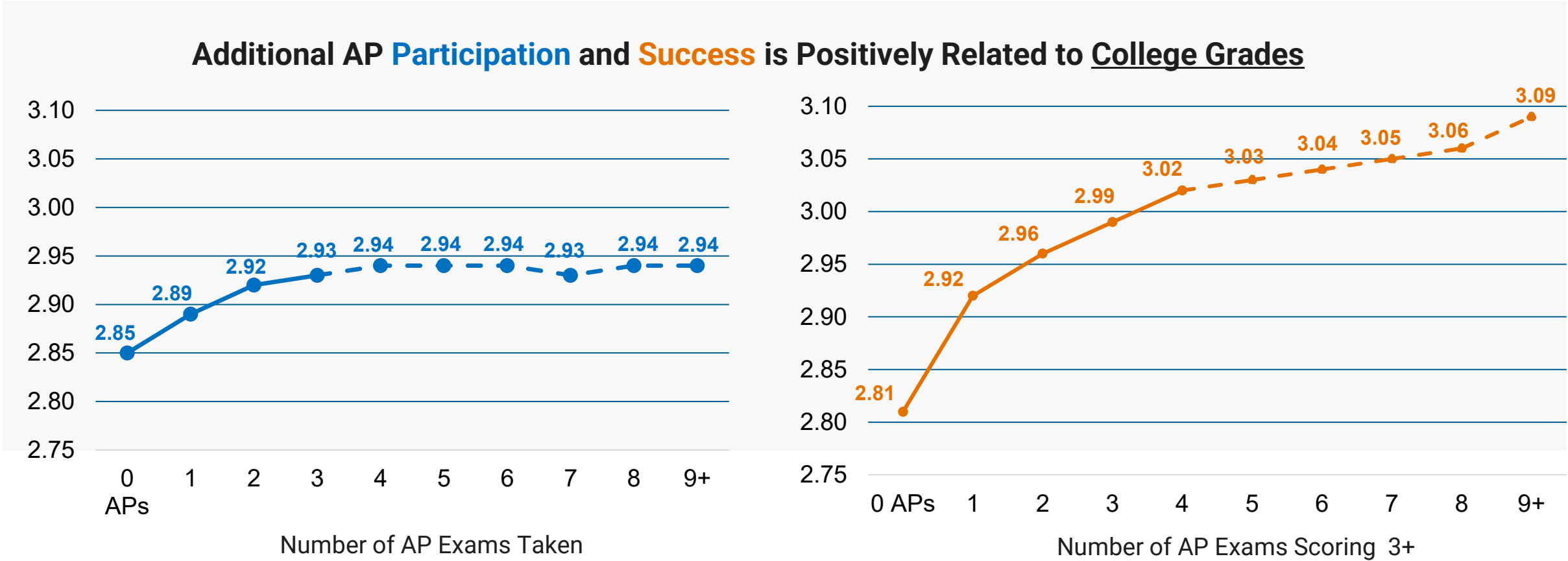
AP Students Perform Better in College

AP students scoring 3s, 4s, or 5s earn the same or higher grades in subsequent courses.

AP vs. Similar Non-AP Student GPA in Subsequent College Course



College Grades: AP Benefits Accrue Even With Just a Few

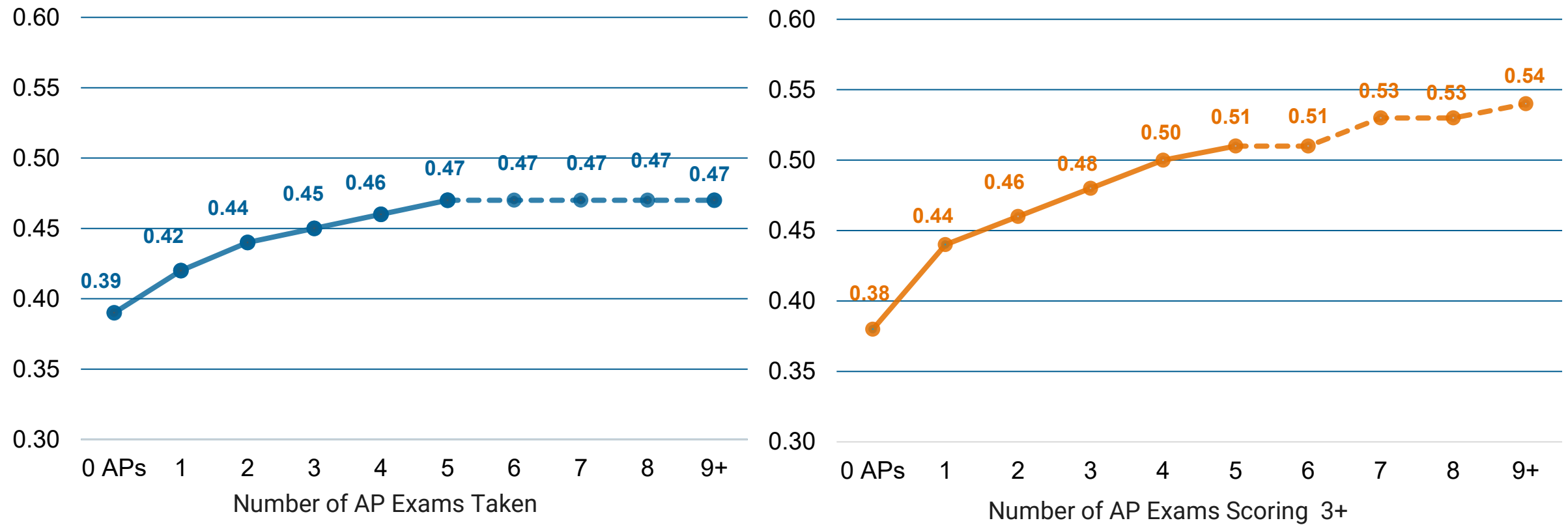


Solid lines denote statistically significant relative to one fewer AP Exam.

Source: Beard, Hsu, Ewing, & Godfrey (2019). Studying the Relationship Between the Number of APs, AP Performance, and College Outcomes. Educational Measurement: Issues and Practice. 38(4). <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/emip.12295>

College Degrees: AP Benefits Accrue Even With Just a Few

Additional AP Participation and Success is Positively Related to Degree Completion



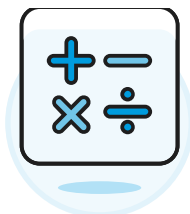
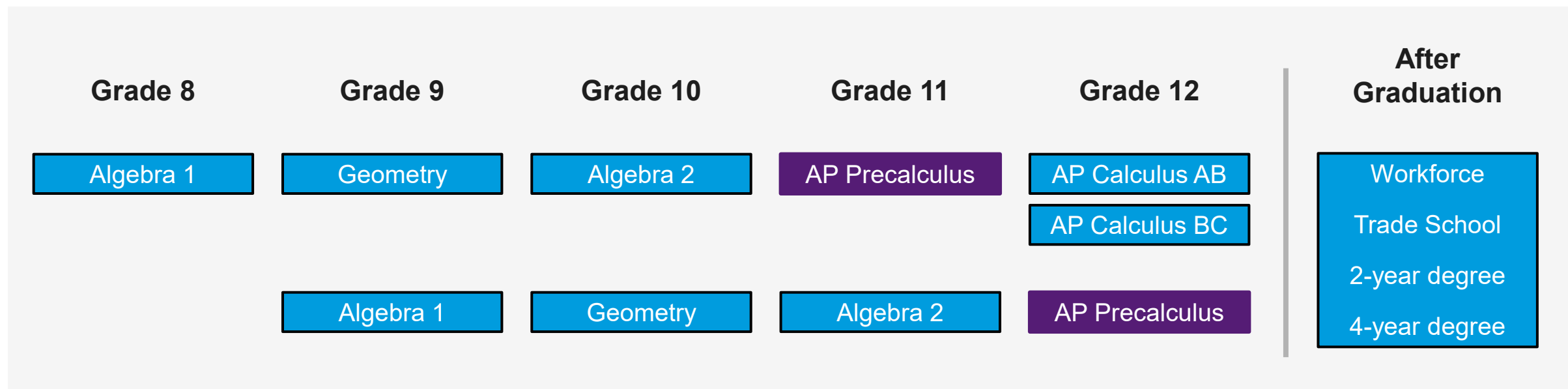
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Section 02

AP Precalculus

Every student who is ready for high school precalculus is ready for **AP Precalculus**.



- AP Precalculus was designed with seniors in mind, and it's beneficial for **any** student who's successfully completed Algebra 1, Geometry, and Algebra 2.

Students who weren't ready for algebra in middle school can still thrive in AP Precalculus.



Brains don't all develop at the same pace

Some students excel in certain skills early and take longer to develop spatial or abstract reasoning.



Readiness $\neq$ Age

Age doesn't determine readiness for algebra or precalculus.



Motivation and context matter!

Students thrive when they're ready and supported.

Readiness is not a fixed point in time—it's a pathway that varies for each learner.

American Psychological Association (2023)

AP Precalculus provides more instructional time and greater supports.

1

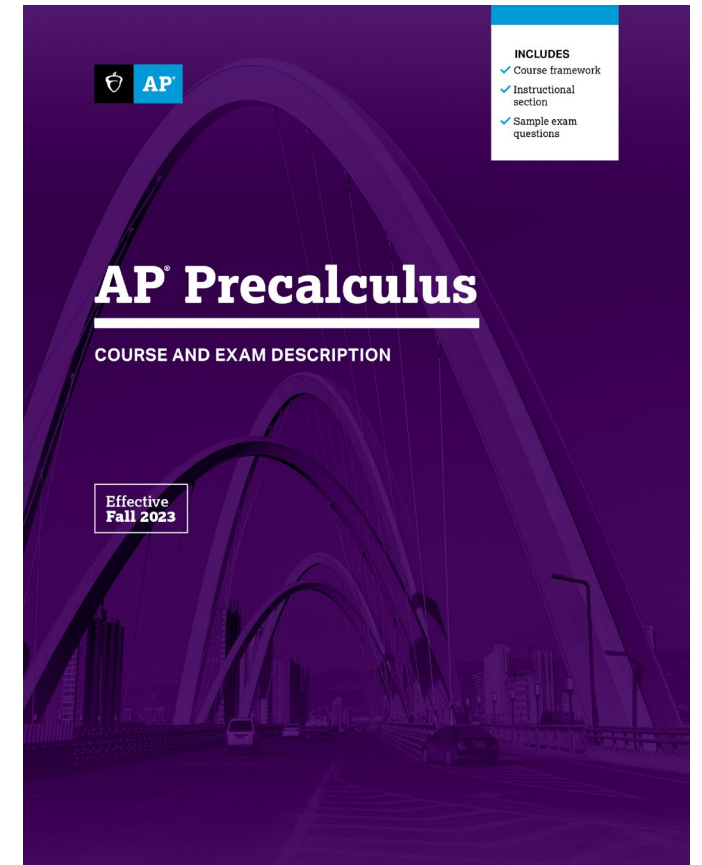
High school class offers nearly 3x the instructional minutes compared to a college class

2

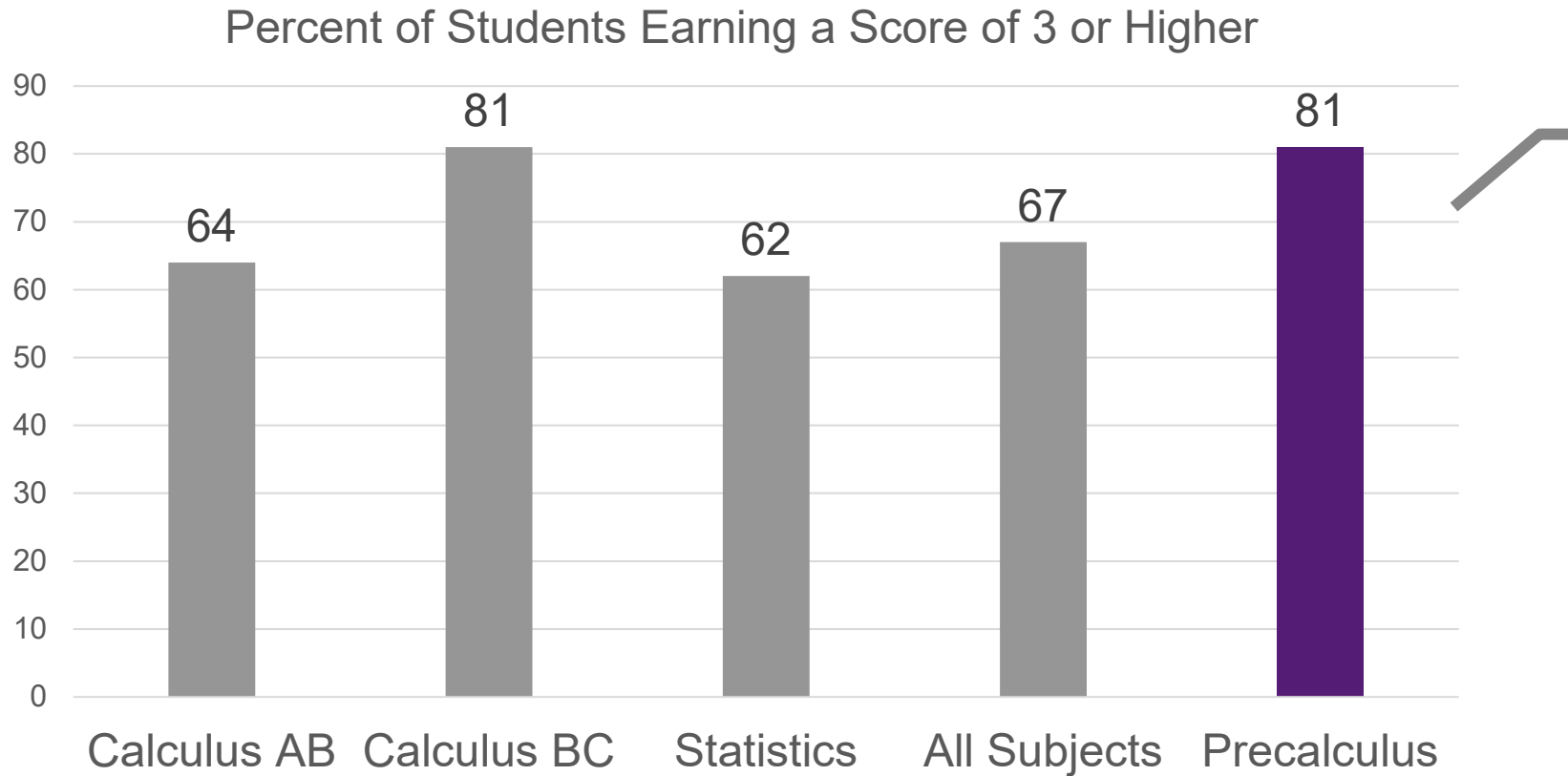
Teacher Support and Encouragement

3

Peer Collaboration



Students are succeeding in AP Precalculus.



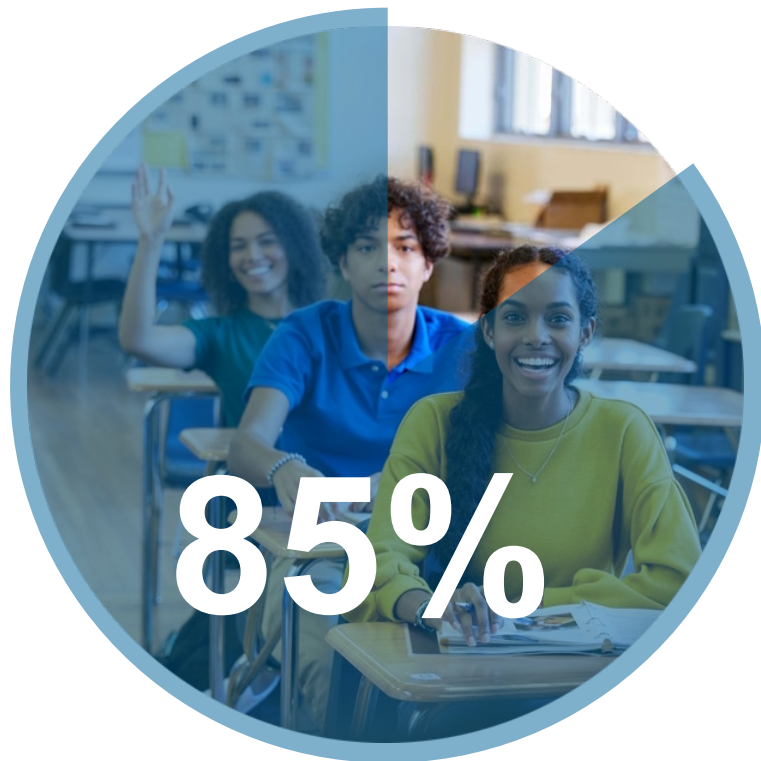
The success rate in AP Precalculus is

- **higher** than the success rate in AP Calculus AB, the most popular AP math course, and
- **higher** than the average success rate across all AP subjects.

Section 03

AP Seminar

Sophomores taking AP Seminar gain significant advantages in future coursework and college.



Sophomores achieved a score of **3 or higher**, compared to the overall performance of 86% on the 2024 AP Seminar Exam.



Increased Performance in AP: AP Seminar students show stronger AP Exam performance on later AP Exams than their peers who didn't take AP Seminar.



Higher First-Year GPAs: In first-year GPA, AP Seminar students were shown to outperform students who didn't take AP.



Greater Second-Year Retention: AP Seminar students have higher likelihood of persisting to the second year of college than their peers who didn't take AP.

Boosts academic performance in future coursework

6%

Higher Performance in AP English
(Lang., Lit.)

7%

Higher Performance in AP History
(Art, Euro, U.S., World)

8%

Higher Performance in AP Politics (U.S., Comp.)

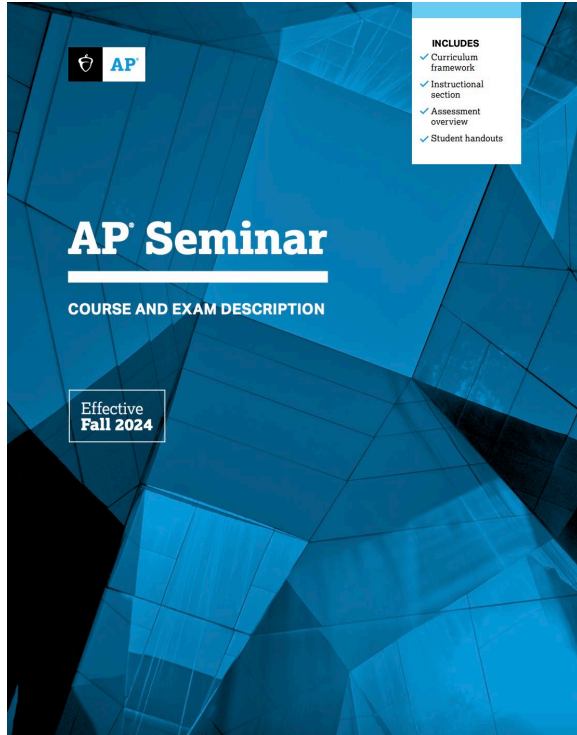
Ensures more students have the essential skills that matter most for college, career, and life

- Communication
- Collaboration
- Teamwork
- Responsibility
- Interpersonal Skills
- Intrapersonal Skills
- Leadership
- Synthesis
- Analysis
- Critical Thinking
- Time Management
- Organization
- Planning
- Computing Skills

Source: <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED603711.pdf>

Evidence Project: Students make convincing arguments.

English 10: AP Seminar gives students the opportunity to investigate the topics that interest them most.



Students work in teams to identify, investigate, and analyze an academic or real-world problem or issue.

Project Requirements:

- Individually, students investigate their assigned approach, perspectives, or lens on the issue or topic of the team research question. Each student presents his or her findings and analysis to the group in a **well-written individual report**.
- Working collaboratively, the team considers all of the research and analyses from individual team members for the purpose of proposing one or more solutions or resolutions. The team develops an **8 to 10-minute presentation** that presents a convincing argument for their proposed solutions or resolutions.

Yes—teachers can still teach literature in AP Seminar.

Literary texts remain powerful tools to support research, writing, and critical thinking in AP Seminar.

Strategies to Incorporate Literary Texts



Practice for Performance Tasks

Leverage literature to spark thesis ideas, build synthesis skills, and practice source analysis.



Inspire Real-World Investigations

Connect themes from texts to current events and personal inquiry.



Teach Argumentation Skills

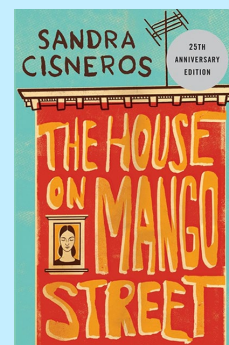
Use characters, claims, and conflict to build logic and rhetorical reasoning.



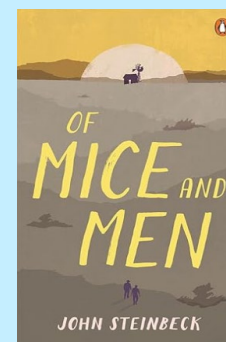
Reinforce Learning After the Exam

Revisit texts through reflection, debate, or new lenses.

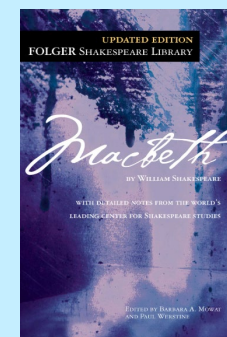
Example Literary Texts (School Choice)



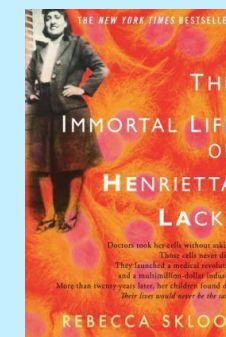
Develop personal voice and perspective.



Explore human rights and moral conflict.



Build argumentative skills through character motivation.



Examine ethics and real-world implications.

Teachers get access to a growing list of AP resources.

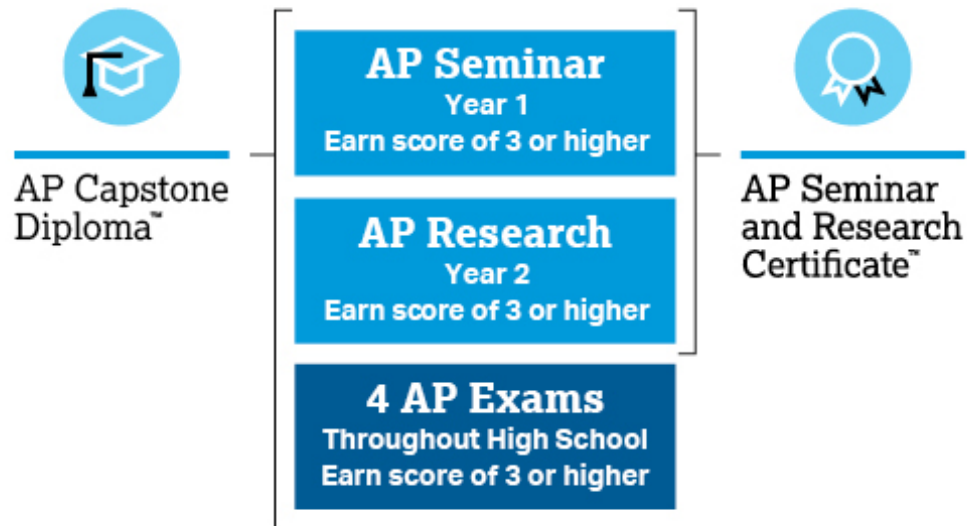
Flexible, high-quality resources for every educator—online, in-person, and on demand.



- **AP Summer Institute (APSI)**
Offered **online and in-person**, the **required** 30-hour offers content-rich training on the course and exam, leveraging AP resources, and strengthening teaching and learning. [Learn more about the AP Summer Institute](#)
- **Online Teacher Community**
Available for all AP courses, providing AP teachers with resources, updates, and a community space to share and learn together.
- **AP Classroom**
A free and flexible online platform that provides instructional resources for each AP course to support student learning of all course content and skills.
- **NEW: English 10: AP Seminar Collaborative**
A **free, year-round learning community** for new and experienced educators teaching AP Seminar as the English 10 course. This supportive network offers six sessions focused on instructional strategies, classroom resources, and implementation support. [Registration is now available.](#)

AP Capstone: Recognizing College-Ready Skills

Pairing AP Seminar and AP Research provides students the opportunity to earn a certificate or the AP Capstone Diploma.



AP Seminar and AP Research can meet **Capstone graduation requirements** approved by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction.

These courses provide authentic opportunities for students to demonstrate college, career, and civic readiness through research, writing, and presentation.

Schools can integrate these courses to support the **ND Choice Ready framework**, particularly in academic and career-readiness indicators.



Courses Spotlight: Educator Panel

Educator Panel

Zachary Norstedt

*AP Precalculus, Educator,
Stanley High School*

Sarah Pohl

*AP Precalculus, Principal,
Hankinson High School*

Aimee Volk

*AP Seminar: English 10, Assistant Principal
Horace High School (West Fargo)*

Q&A



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Thank You!

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