



Advanced Placement Updates

North Dakota gathered with other states at the Advanced Placement Colloquium in Dallas, TX in October. This was an exciting time for department staff to gain further insight on College Board's Advanced Placement (AP) program and learn more about what is on the horizon for AP in North Dakota.

A Milestone in History

The AP program began in 1955 and is celebrating its 60th year of success during 2016. The AP is a cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities. The AP program provides motivated high school students with the opportunity to take college-level courses in a high school setting. Students who participate in the program not only gain college-level skills, but in many cases they also earn college credit while they are still in high school. AP courses are taught by dedicated and enthusiastic high school teachers who follow course guidelines developed and published by the College Board.

AP Music Theory

Beginning with the May 2016 AP Music Theory Exam administration, students' sight-singing responses may be submitted digitally via an online application that will replace submission of responses on CD. Cassette tapes will continue to be an option for submitting students' responses. It is anticipated that this change will be rolled into the AP World Languages assessments during 2017.

New Course – AP Computer Science Principles

In Fall 2016, AP Computer Science Principles will be a new course and exam available to students. The course will introduce students to the fundamental concepts of computer science, beyond, computer programming, and will challenge them to explore how computing and technology can impact the world. With a unique focus on creative problem solving and real-world applications, AP Computer Science Principles prepares students for college and career.

During the 2015 Legislative Session, the department secured funds for Leveraging the Senior Year which includes AP related initiatives. As details regarding these initiatives become secured, information will be posted online at www.nd.gov/dpi/Administrators/AS/Programs_Initiatives/AP/ and highlighted in the department's newsletter.

Questions regarding Advanced Placement in North Dakota please contact [Ann Ellefson](mailto:Ann.Ellefson@nd.gov) at (701) 328-2488.