Equity In The Advanced Placement Classroom

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Welcome and Introductions

• Briefly describe your role in education and your experience with Advanced Placement courses
What’s in your bag?
Give yourself a point for each item that you have.

- Pen/pencil
- Folder
- Book
- Notepad
- Chewing Gum
- Food
- Drink
- Keys
- Laptop
- Calculator
- Flash-drive/CD/floppy disk
- Charging cord
- Money
- Note of encouragement
Access to Learning Comparison

- The tools you need to learn are developed from experience
- The tools you need were purchased by you
- The tools you need were suggested to you through influence

- The tools for student learning in the AP courses are provided by the
  - educator
  - administrator
  - school
How many different AP Courses are currently offered by the College Board?

A. 38
B. 18
C. 54
D. 26
Which of the following is not an AP course?

A. AP Anatomy
B. AP Human Geography
C. AP Spanish Literature and Culture
D. AP Studio Art: 2-D Design
What is the AP exam Fee for May 2019?

A. $43
B. $120
C. $94
D. $205
AP Courses are designed to be equivalent to:

A. One semester of college instruction in that subject
B. Two semesters of college instruction in that subject
C. Five semesters of college instruction in that subject
D. A or B
E. A, B, or C
How many AP courses did you take?

A. 1
B. 2
C. 3
D. 4
E. 5 or more
Advanced Placement Program

• Started in 1955 by the College Board, a national not-for-profit membership association whose mission is to connect students to college success and opportunity, the Advanced Placement Program (AP) enables students to pursue college-level studies while in high school. Based on their performance on rigorous AP Exams, students can earn credit, advanced placement, or both for college.
Roles for Colleges and High Schools

Colleges
• Provide credit and/or advanced placement
• Participate in the development of the courses and exams
• Learn more at https://aphighered.collegeboard.org/courses-exams/course-exam-development

High Schools
• Offer the courses
• Administer the exams
• Participate in the development of the courses and exams
• AP teachers and college faculty gather for the annual AP Reading to grade AP Exams. Learn more at http://apcentral.collegeboard.com/apc/public/homepage/4137.html
Performance Indicators

“One of the best standard predictors of academic success at Harvard is performance on Advanced Placement® Examinations.”

—William Fitzsimmons, Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, Harvard University
Advantages of Taking AP Courses

Figure 4: Increase in probability of college graduation within five years or less compared with students not participating in AP, by ethnicity and socioeconomic status

- Black/African American: +28%
- Hispanic/Latino: +28%
- White: +33%
- Low Income: +28%
- Non-Low Income: +34%

Adapted from Dougherty, Mellor, and Jian, 2006

Interpreting Data

• **Internal Validity**
  is concerned with the degree of certainty that observed effects in an experiment are actually the result of the experimental treatment or condition (the cause), rather than intervening, extraneous or confounding variables. Internal validity is enhanced by increasing the control of these other variables.

• **External Validity**
  Is concerned with the degree to which research findings can be applied to the real world, beyond the controlled setting of the research. This is the issue of generalizability. Attempts to increase internal validity are likely to reduce external validity as the study is conducted in a manner that is increasingly unlike the real world.
What are the Benefits of Taking AP?

• Group 1:
  • The student wasn’t considered AP material or was unqualified

• Group 2:
  • The student was considered AP material and was qualified
• Group 1:
  • The student wasn’t considered AP material or was unqualified

• Group 2:
  • The student was considered AP material and was qualified
The verdict is.....

• The benefits of taking an AP Course whether or not you belong there far out way the disadvantages.

• Students gain experience managing stress, coping with heavy workloads, practicing how to study, deciding their majors with confidence and more.
Why Encourage a Student to Take AP?

• Does every student deserves the chance to challenge themselves regardless of how well you think they will perform?

• Do you know folks who are the gatekeepers of AP?
How to Encourage a Student to Take AP?

• As a school administrator, use PSAT scores as predictors for success.
• As a district, send letters home, fundraise for incentives, offer final exam exemptions, pay for the exam, train your staff.
• As a teacher, be their cheerleader!
Schools: Use PSAT Scores as Success Indicators

What you’ll get:

- **Rosters** that show all students in the selected grade(s) who have the potential to succeed in AP courses. District-level users can generate a single roster for all schools in their district.²

- **Customized letters** that you can send to parents/guardians to inform them of their child’s AP potential.³

- The ability to sort your rosters by such characteristics as race/ethnicity or gender to support school, district, or state-level equity and access goals.
To find out the AP potential of your students, follow these steps:

1. Go to appotential.collegeboard.org and sign in to your College Board account. You can sign up for an account on that page if you do not have one.

2. At the prompt, enter your access code. All principals, AP Coordinators, and district staff at schools and districts where the PSAT/NMSQT is administered receive their access code via email in December. You can also locate your access code through the SAT Suite of Assessments K-12 Assessment Reporting Tool at k12reports.collegeboard.org, by calling Customer Service at 212-713-8066 or by contacting your College Board regional office.

3. Follow the prompts to generate your AP Potential roster(s).
EVERY summer, there is a fabulous moment at the Greensboro, N.C., "Cool to Be Smart" celebration, for students who have passed five or more Advanced Placement exams -- the moment when one of them selects a lucky key and wins a new car and balloons cascade from the ceiling.

"I was so surprised when my key fit in the door that I just stood there for a couple seconds, and the balloons came down and everybody was clapping and cheering and my dad came screaming and yelling from the audience," says Laura St. Cyr, last year's winner, now a freshman at nearby Elon University.

In the last four years, the Guilford County School District has given away four cars, 20 laptop computers and 22 scholarships of $1,500 each -- all in the service of coaxing students into more rigorous courses.

Teacher Support -
Every Child Needs a Champion

https://www.ted.com/talks/rita_pierson_every_kid_needs_a_champion?utm_source=tedcomshare&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=tedspread
What best practices do you have for communicating the value of AP and increasing enrollment for underrepresented groups?
My Story…

A FEMALE SCIENCE TEACHER’S OPEN LETTER TO HER FUTURE FEMALE SCIENTISTS