

HERITAGE CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SECONDARY CURRICULUM GUIDE

Heritage Christian Academy Secondary Curriculum Christian education begins with the study of God's Word to search for His principles. It is His Word that consecrates and inspires the mind and builds character and illuminates the pathways of thinking and reasoning. Therefore, God's Word is at the heart of education at Heritage Christian Academy. This educational approach requires one to consider and ponder the purpose for everything in God's universe. Such reflection demands time. It also demands that we study and integrate God's Truths into our lives and the lives of our students, as well as into the subjects we teach.

Just as God gave the Old Testament with its Moral Law and rules to govern Moses and the children of Israel – a comprehensive body of laws or principles by which they could direct their personal and national lives, and determine the rightness or wrongness of their choices and actions – so God gave the "whole counsel" of both the Law and the Gospel to both Jew and Gentile for the salvation and direction of all men and nations.

"Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word or by epistle" (II Thessalonians 2:15).

Our curricular framework adheres to the following key distinctives:

- Developing an education program that begins with Truth (2 Cor. 10:5; John 14:6)
- Gaining the mind of Christ in education (Phil. 2:5; Rom. 12:1-2)'
- Searching God's Word for His standards (2 Tim. 3:16, 17; Deut. 6:3-7)
- Instructing to facilitate Biblical reasoning (2 Tim. 2:15; James 1:22)
- Building a living curriculum upon Christian character and conscience (Phil. 4:8; Eph. 6:4)

The instructional pathway of instruction includes researching, relating, reasoning, and recording. Biblical understanding of content is foundational to helping students value learning and develop authentic faith.

Intended Learning Outcomes

The main intent of secondary school is to equip and nurture students to be ambassadors for Christ in the 21st century. The Intended Learning Outcomes described below reflect the belief that secondary education should address the spiritual, intellectual, emotional, social, physical, and aesthetic development of students. By nurturing development in these interrelated human domains, students will have the opportunity to prepare to serve God according to His purposes. The outcomes recorded below provide direction for general classroom instruction:

A graduate from Heritage Christian Academy will:

1. Act in Love

- -Commit to Christian character and personal self-government
- -Respect all people
- -Lead as a servant
- -Steward God's creation and the resources He has given

2. Believe Biblically

- -Love Jesus and His Word
- -Grow in relationship with Christ
- -Articulate and defend a Biblical worldview
- -Glorify God

3. Cultivate Intellect

- -Reason Biblically
- -Demonstrate Academic Excellence
- -Communicate effectively in written and verbal forms
- -Work well with others

Grade 7 & 8 Requirements

Requirements	Grade 7	Grade 8
2 years of Bible	Old Testament Survey	New Testament Survey
3 years of English	English 7 &	English 8
	Composition	
2 years of History	World Changers	Early US History
2 years of Math	Pre-Algebra	Algebra 1
2 years of Science	Earth Science	Anatomy and Physiology
1 semester of Computer		Digital Literacy

Elective Choices: Art, Drama, Tech Club, Teacher's Aide, Handbell Choir, Yearbook, Study Hall* and Math Lab*

Student athletes are required to be enrolled in 6 or more courses (study hall and Math Lab do not count as a course towards sports requirements or electives).

High School Requirements

Requirements	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	
4 years of Bible	Christian Doctrine I	Christian Doctrine II	Worldviews I	Worldviews II	
4 years of English	Introduction to Literature	World Literature	U.S. Literature AP Lit	Rhetoric	
4 years of History	World History I	World History II	AP/US History	Gov/Econ AP European History	
4 years of Math	Algebra I Geometry	Geometry Algebra II	Algebra II Pre-Calculus Personal Finance	AP Physics AP Calculus Personal Finance	
4 years of Science	Physical Science	Biology	Chemistry AP Physics	Responding to Emergencies Physics AP Physics AP Biology AP Environmental Science AP Psychology	
2 years of Foreign	Spanish I	Spanish II			
Language	German I	German II			
Additional	Health	Speech			
Requirements	(1 semester)	(1 semester)	C - 1: /D - 1 4: 1	D II 11 11	
Electives: 3 semesters	Choices: Art, Biblical Womanhood, Coding/Robotics, Drama, Handbell				
required	Choir, Introduction to Christian Psychology, Life Fitness, Math Lab*, Student Council, Study Hall*, Teacher's Aide, Wasson-STEM, Worship				
required	Team, Yearbook. (Note : Study Hall and Math Lab do not count as an elective. Students in 9 th and 10 th grade are placed in Study Hall if they are not in another elective during 7th).				

Student athletes are required to be enrolled in 6 or more courses. Classes marked by * do not count toward the 6-course requirement to participate in athletic program.

Bible Courses

Bible is taught as a distinct content area as well as integrated in all instruction. Bible is taught to make possible the divine-human confrontation so God can speak through His Word the good news of salvation to students. Through Biblical studies students are invited to come to understand that the loving Creator-Redeemer God has acted on behalf of sinful man providing redemption. It is our prayer that each student will make the transition from knowledge to belief to conversion to Biblical Christian living.

Bible 7-8

Seventh and Eighth grade Bible provide an overview of the Bible. Seventh grade includes a survey of the Old Testament while 8th grade provides a survey of the New Testament. Emphasis is placed on God's story of Creation, Fall and Redemption along with our place in His story.

Christian Doctrines Part I

This course is part one of a two-part course designed to help the student grow in Christ's likeness by gaining a reasoned understanding of foundational Christian beliefs. It addresses topics such as the following:

- How do the free will of man and the sovereignty of God coincide?
- How has God brought about the restoration of what we lost in the Fall?
- Where is human history going?
- What is the role of the Church?
- How are angels involved in the world of men?

These studies will result in the development of a Biblical framework or "grid" in the student's mind through which he can sift and interpret all the particulars (moral, social, political, interpersonal) of life.

Christian Doctrines Part II

This course is part two of a two-part course designed to help the student grow in Christ's likeness by gaining a carefully reasoned understanding of foundational Christian beliefs. It builds upon the topics addressed in Christian Doctrines Part 1 and results in further development of a Biblical framework of "grid" in the student's mind through which she can sift and interpret all the particulars (moral, social, political, interpersonal) of life.

World Views Part 1

This course is part one of a two- part course designed to equip the student to explain the gospel to his friends in a coherent manner, to articulate why any thoughtful person should seriously consider the truth claims of the Christian worldview, and to gain tools of discernment in evaluating other ideas they may encounter.

Worldviews Part II

This course is part two of a two-part course designed to strengthen students understanding of how Christian beliefs should apply to various aspects of life such as philosophy, ethics, law, politics, etc. Secondly, a student should understand that a Christian worldview is reasonable and that competing worldviews they will encounter are inadequate foundations for living, both individually and with respect to society.

Language Arts Courses

Students learn to think biblically through the practice of reading, writing, listening, speaking, and thinking. Just as God's character is a perfect blend of exactness and creativity, so is language. Students are encouraged to blend these elements in all language arts areas. In addition, the application will include transferring pertinent elements of language into other areas of study.

Students are immersed in a literature-rich environment, filled with classical and quality contemporary fiction and information selections which relate to multiple areas of learning and interest.

The goal of language arts instruction is the mastery of language for communication of the Gospel—effective, fluent expression in speaking, writing, and visually representing—and for successful enterprise in the individual life.

7th Grade Foundations of Literature

In this course, students read a variety of literature as they learn and apply the foundations of literature: character, setting, theme, plot, and conflict. Students will learn to think biblically as they read, write, listen, and speak about literature and its effects on individuals and society.

7th Grade Composition

This course is designed to provide students with an overview of basic language skills which will enable them to identify parts of speech and become creatively involved in the

writing process as they build fluent, detailed sentences, paragraphs, and essays. Students are taught the basic structure of formal essays and the steps of revision, editing, and publishing.

8th Grade Elements of Literature and Composition

In this course, students continue to explore the foundation elements of literature while reading a variety of literature with an emphasis on classical texts. Likewise, students will complete a series of written assignments both dependent and independent of what they are reading while studying rhetorical devices, world view, keys to skillful writing, punctuation, and grammar.

English 9-Introduction to Literature

In this course students will read and analyze a variety of literary genres. The emphasis will be on interpreting texts from a Biblical worldview. This course features extensive work on the development of writing skills. Students will produce a series of formal essays in which they will explore their interpretations of literature. Through this process, they will work on building and supporting effective arguments. Vocabulary and grammar will be studied in conjunction with these essays.

English 10-World Literature

Our own time and place is a world shaped by God's providence by all that has come before, not just the physical world, but the world of literature. The stories of previous ages and various places are part of our heritage. This class offers students a passport to this rich heritage via literature from a range of eras, places, cultures, languages, and traditions. This course introduces students to the richness and purpose of World Literature, its timeless stories, its living characters, and its diverse cultural origins and contexts. Students will be guided to make connections that build knowledge and understanding connections between texts, between regions of the world, and between the works and their own lives. Students will continue to enhance writing fluency as they write a series of formal essays in which they will practice biblical reasoning and literary interpretation. Vocabulary and grammar will be studied in conjunction with these essays.

English 11-American Literature

This course is designed to provide an overview of the main periods of American Literature: Early American (1620-1820), Romanticism (1820-1865), Realism (1865-1914), and Modernism (1914-present). Students will understand how literature is providentially used to influence and reflect history as they study the works created during

each time period of America's history. Students will be guided to make connections that build knowledge and understanding as they investigate the main beliefs prevalent in each time period and how those beliefs influenced the writings passed on to future generations. In addition to this study of America's rich heritage in literature, students will continue to enhance personal vocabulary, mastery of grammar, and writing fluency as they interpret and analyze literature through a biblical worldview with the intention of deeper understanding and personal life application.

English 12-Rhetoric

In this course, students critically analyze words, forms of writing, and diverse types of literature in order to communicate more effectively and dynamically. An emphasis is placed on discussing the text, developing critical thinking, and examining Christianity and culture. While reading a wide variety of literature, students will complete a series of written analysis assignments and complete the Senior Thesis Project using appropriate support (MLA documentation, structure, presentation). Periodic reviews of grammar and style will be covered as needed.

Advanced Placement Literature

As a two-semester blended AP class this course engages students in becoming skilled readers of both poetry and prose, and in becoming skilled writers who can compose literary analysis essays. Both their writing and their reading should make students aware of the interactions among a writer's purposes, audience expectations, and subjects, as well as the way genre conventions and the resources of language contribute to effectiveness in writing. This course prepares students to pass the AP Literature exam.

History Courses

History is truly "His Story," from creation to the dispersion of men throughout the earth. Mankind is fulfilling the creation mandate of establishing dominion and inhabiting the earth and reflects the characteristics of God as he seeks to gain knowledge and live within a social system. Our social studies curriculum focuses on Christian history, as we explore God's providence in people, movements, and nations. Social, cultural, philosophical, and political studies are woven throughout our curricular program with emphasis placed upon the principles found in God's Word. Importance is placed upon a nation's commitment, or lack thereof, to God and His principles.

World Changers & Geography 7

This course is designed to instruct students about individuals, events, conflicts, resolutions, and impact of the world's history through the ages. Connections between these areas, God, and the student will also be stressed. Individuals who changed the world will be studied and their unique God-ordained character traits will be investigated. As the student discovers the context surrounding their providential placement in the historic timeline, they will then learn more about how God can use them!

The second part of this course is also designed to give students a practical knowledge of physical geography of the world as they explore God's providence as demonstrated by physical features, culture, government, economics, and current events.

8th Grade Early US History

The students will develop a deeper understanding of American history with a Christian perspective from early colonization to the present through the use of readings, assignments, research, discussions, projects, and various media sources.

World History Part I

This course is part one of a two-part course designed for students to explore World History from creation to the present examining the Providential events and contributions of each civilization.

World History Part II

This course is part two of a two-part course designed for students to explore World History from creation to the present examining the Providential events and contributions of each civilization.

US History

This course was designed for students to develop their abilities to evaluate and critique America's history from a Biblical perspective. Students will gain a working knowledge of our country's history from its early colonization and founding to the present. They will compare and contrast the dominant philosophy and literary trends of each time period to Christianity.

Government & Economics

This course is composed of three major aspects which include government, economics, and current events. The first semester is spent developing an understanding of the United States government through examining branches of government, biblical context, governing documents, political parties, state and local governments, and bureaucracies. The basic tenants of American economics are the focus of material covered during the second semester. This is accomplished through teaching about circulation of money, business models, the stock market, the impact of debt, the banking system, the budget (both national and local and personal), and various economic problems. Throughout the entire year, focused time is given to current events that provide students an opportunity to examine the interplay between government and economics.

AP US History

This two-semester course focuses on American history from the age of exploration to the present. This class will provide students with the opportunity to study our country's history in depth and prepare them for the Advanced Placement Exam. The purpose of this class is to go beyond memorizing dates and facts and instead be able to evaluate motivation and bias of individuals and groups, understand how events relate to one another, recognize broad themes and movements, comprehend both immediate and long-term consequences of events, and apply knowledge and skills to understand and analyze present day events.

This course prepares students to pass the AP US History exam.

AP European History

The study of European history since 1450 introduces students to cultural, economic, political, and social developments that played a providential role in shaping the world in which we live. By developing this knowledge base, students gain context for understanding the development of contemporary institutions, the role of continuity, and change in present-day society and politics, and the development of current forms of artistic expression, and intellectual discourse. In addition to providing a basic narrative of events and movements, the goals of AP History are to develop a) an understanding of some of the principal themes in modern European history, b) an ability to analyze historical evidence and historical interpretation, and c) an ability to express historical understanding in writing.

This course prepares students to pass the AP European History exam.

Mathematics Courses

We recognize and encourage the reality that math teaches students to be disciplined and precise; to think logically and objectively. It reveals to us the orderliness and consistency of God. We believe there is one Creator who has created all things. Mathematics is seen as part of God's creation and hence an area worthy of study. We do not crate mathematics, instead we discover the principles and mathematical truths that God enables us to discover and understand.

Pre-Algebra

In the Pre-Algebra course students will learn about and explore topics including integers, order of operations, algebraic expressions, one- and two-step equations, proportions, percentages, probability, geometry, and linear equations.

Algebra I

In Algebra 1 students acquire a foundation of algebraic skills that include: analyzing data and relationships, discovering patterns, functions, linear equations and inequalities, lines, polynomials, and the basic structure of the real numbers. This is done using algebraic, graphical, and tabular representation of concepts.

Math U See

Math U See courses are offered to HCA students who would benefit from a student-paced mastery approach to math. All courses use a distinctive set of manipulatives to visually represent and demonstrate math concepts. The content covered in Math U See courses corresponds to the content covered in HCA math courses taught more traditionally. HCA offers Math U See Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, Algebra 2, and Geometry.

Geometry

Geometry (ancient Greek: geo = earth, metria = measure) is part of mathematics concerned with questions of size, shape, and relative position of figures. The objective of this course is that students will acquire a foundation of geometry that includes both an understanding of the mathematics involved as well as an ability to apply this understanding to real world situations in such a way that the students can develop practical solutions and explain their thinking process in doing so.

Algebra 2

Students acquire a more in-depth look into algebraic principles and come to understand the connection between algebra, geometry, and trigonometry. This course will prepare students to use advanced algebra concepts and skills confidently in mathematics and in other related disciplines.

AP Pre-Calculus

Students are prepared for success in Calculus and other high-level mathematics they will encounter later in high school and college. This preparation is provided by an overview of algebra, geometry, and trigonometry concepts, in an effort to establish a mastery over operations and strategies necessary for successful mathematical thinking.

This course is designed to prepare students to take and pass the AP Calculus exam and is based on the College Board Curriculum for AP Pre-Calculus.

Personal Finance

The general intent of this course is to learn about the Creator's view of finance and our resources – the principles He has given to us and how we can apply those principles to honor Him.

Great are the works of the Lord. All who study them are blessed. Psalm 111:2

The specific purpose is to become familiar with financial and mathematical skills involved in independent living both now and after the student graduates from high school, and to become familiar with our nation's financial system. Students study varied topics, including personal budgeting, tithing, buying, supporting, and financing a car, buying, and maintaining a house, understanding, and obtaining a mortgages, taxes, banking, insurance, investments, and federal budgeting and creation of money.

Advanced Placement Calculus

This course is designed for the college-bound student with science or math related emphasis or skills. This course takes students from a more static view of math to a more dynamic view. It teaches students how to deal with changes and motion, what happens when quantities approach other quantities, and how limits expand our mathematical toolbox.

This course is designed to prepare students to take and pass the AP Calculus exam.

Science Courses

HCA approaches science from a Biblical perspective. God created an incredible and intricate universe which we are honored to explore and study in great details. His creativity and beauty achieved with perfect balance and order vividly portray what a majestic God we serve. Because God is good, every concept students learn via the sciences should enable them to understand the good purpose God originally intended, along with teaching them the Biblical principle of accountability and stewardship. We believe through the study of science we learn more about God--the one who made the world, redeemed it, and supports and preserves all things for the benefit of humankind.

Earth Science 7th Grade

In this course students will continue to practice laboratory procedures and the scientific method as they explore the origins of the earth from a Biblical Creation perspective. They will explore basic geological concepts as well as the basics of astronomy. They will be able to apply scientific concepts as they learn the Biblical mandate to be good stewards of the earth.

Anatomy and Physiology 8th Grade

This course presents the essential information for understanding the structure and function of the human body. "God created man in his own image," (Genesis 1:27) and "crowned him with glory and honor" (Psalm 8:5). Students will gain a sense of marvel and wonder at the glory of God revealed in the human body.

Physical Science

This course is designed with an emphasis on Physics and to a lesser extent Chemistry in the study of the nonliving things that make up the world. Students will learn the rules that God designed that govern matter in motion, energy at work, sound and light, and electricity and magnetism. They will be challenged to look at the ways that scientists have used the laws of nature to develop products and to think about the possible benefits and adverse effects that can result from discoveries.

Health (1 semester)

In this course students learn biblical stewardship of their personal physical, emotional, and social health as they understand and create strategies that can be applied to their own lives. Students learn strategies for wellness, the importance of self-knowledge for emotional wellness, and the importance of proper nutrition and exercise. Students also study the processes, responsibilities, and consequences of human sexuality.

Biology

The vast field of Biology is explored in this course. The field of study spans from the microscopic world of cells to global ecology. The incredible complexity and remarkable variety of life is a testament to the hand of God at work in His amazing creation at every level. In this course, students are invited to apply God's principles of stewardship and accountability in today's world of biology and to think critically about the topic of Evolution.

Advanced Placement Biology

The AP Biology course is a two-semester introduction college level biology course. Students are encouraged to cultivate their understanding of biology through inquiry-based investigation as they explore the topic of evolution, cellular processes, energy and communication, genetics, information transfer, ecology, and interactions. In addition, students are taught to think critically about topics (such as evolution).

The course is designed to prepare them to take and pass the AP Biology exam.

Advanced Placement Environmental Science

This AP course is designed to be the equivalent of a one-semester introductory college course in environmental science, taught over a year. The course looks at natural and human induced environmental issues, evaluates the relative risks associated with these and potential solutions and preventions. It draws from topics including geology, biology, environmental studies, environmental science, chemistry, and geography. Students are also encouraged to think through their role in stewarding the environment in which God has placed them.

The course is designed to prepare students to take and pass the AP Environmental Science exam.

Chemistry

Chemistry is an engaging course which begins by developing critical thinking skills, acquiring factual knowledge, and learning chemical concepts. This knowledge base can then be used to explain, analyze, and interpret chemical processes. Because God created all matter, His incredible design and power are evident in the smallest atoms.

Responding to Emergencies

In this course students gain the knowledge to assess and treat common injuries, illnesses, and conditions. They are equipped to be a biblical "good Samaritan" as they learn the

skills necessary to be an effective first responder and become Red Cross certified in CPR & First Aid.

Physics

The primary purpose of this course is to learn about the Creator by studying His creation. This course will provide a systematic introduction to the main principles of physics and emphasize the development of problem-solving abilities. This course is built upon a foundational understanding of algebra and basic trigonometry.

Note: This course is not necessarily taught every year.

Advanced Placement Physics

The AP Physics course is a two-semester university level algebra-based physics course. It is designed to provide students with a good understanding of the physical world in which they live, and to prepare them to take the College Board AP Physics Examination. The course emphasizes both general understanding and problem-solving ability. Hands-on laboratory work is an integral part of the students' learning experiences.

Foreign Language Courses

One of God's greatest gifts to us is the gift of language. God Himself is the Logos or "Word" described in John 1:1-5. It is through language that God has revealed Himself in Scripture, and it is through language that we communicate with Him in prayer, as well as with others. The highest goal of language learning is to be able to create the kind of relationship with another person that can make Christ's love known to him in a very tangible way.

Intro to Spanish I - Spanish II

Spanish Introduction – Spanish II is a two-year study. The four basic language skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing are acquired in Spanish using the Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling (T.P.R.S). Students are introduced to Hispanic culture throughout the world. Reading the Bible and memorizing key verses further their language proficiency and equip them to fulfill the Great Commission.

German 1 and German 2

The German 1 and 2 program presents vocabulary and grammar as tools for effective communication, while emphasizing contemporary culture as integral to successful

language acquisition. The course seeks to enhance language learning for today's students through powerful technology, video integrated into core lesson content and practice. The curriculum utilizes the ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines and the World Readiness Standards for Learning Languages with features and strategies tailored specifically to build students' language and cultural competencies along with equipping them to fulfill the Great Commission.

Electives

HCA electives are courses that fall outside of the main core academic subject areas. These courses are not required but enable students to select areas of study that further develop their God-given individuality.

Applied Science

This course is designed to give students the opportunity to learn skills in 3-D printing and design. Active participation and project development will focus on the engineering design process (Define the problem, Research, Specify requirements, Brainstorm/evaluate/choose solution, develop and prototype solution, test solution, iterate, communicate).

Art

The leading distinctive in our art program is the pursuit of knowing God through Art. As the original Artist, God reveals Himself and His Glory through Creation. Our students learn that their Art can also reveal truths. The Secondary Art Curriculum covers several years as some students will stay in the program throughout their high school journey. The course stresses an understanding of various art fundamentals including color theory, tint, shade, tone, and perspective along with the ability for students to put their learning into direct practice.

Coding & Robotics

The intent of this class is to help students to learn programming language and then apply that knowledge to a robot. Emphasis is on active participation, critical thinking and problem solving.

Biblical Womanhood

This class will address the topic of Biblical Womanhood, the importance of our worldview being founded in Biblical Truth and what that entails for young women

steeped in a culture that pushes ideological lies and discounts God's design and His Truth.

Digital Literacy

This course is designed to equip students with needed computer skills to excel in a digital world. Students will be exposed to a broad range of technological concepts from basic computer hardware/software to computer systems, the Internet, and safe online habits. They will also learn the basics of programming and algorithms. At the end of this course, students will have the foundational skills needed to troubleshoot basic computer problems, use various apps, and write computer code.

Drama

As students study and perform, they learn that theater is a public forum using words and actions to express oneself. Drama underscores the importance of walking in God's light, whether under the stage lights or under the streetlight. On-and off-stage, students are reflections of God's presence in their lives.

Hand Bell Choir

Performing in a handbell choir provides opportunities to build skills in performance, worship leading, teamwork, and music. Handbells are easy to learn but provide challenges for even the most advanced musicians.

Intro to Christian Psychology

Psychology is a vast field spanning from the microscopic world of nerve cells to the treatment of mental pain. In this course the complexity and individuality of humans is celebrated as a testament to the hand of God at work in His amazing creation at every level. This course emphasizes the process of applying God's principles of righteous relationships in the study of psychology.

Physical Education

The Physical Education elective is designed for students to have the opportunity to focus on developing their knowledge of and competency in motor skills, movement patterns, and strategies essential to perform a variety of physical activities. Active participation is stressed as well as an appreciation for stewarding the bodies and health God has given to us.

Wasson-ECE Stem Class

This course is an elective, 1-day a week class. Students engage in science and engineering practices to solve real world issues. The course is run in conjunction with a local technology business owner and an HCA staff member, and students have the opportunity to work with and become familiar with processes such as Gas Chromatography and Mass Spec.

Worship Team

Leading the music portion of weekly chapel, the Worship Team focuses on expression of praise and glory to God. This outward testimony develops a student's call to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The principle of Christian Character is evident as students realize their impact for Christ in the World.

Yearbook

The yearbook course is a collaborative learning venture whose primary goal is to produce an accurate, thorough, consistent, technically correct record of the HCA story. The yearbook course requires students to take part in all aspects of production of the yearbook including creating a theme, designing the cover and layout, and taking photographs.

Note: The Advanced Placement (AP) is a program in the United States created by the College Board offering college-level curriculum and examinations to high school students. American colleges often grant placement and course credit to students who obtain high scores above a certain number on the examinations. The AP curriculum for the various subjects is created for the College Board by a panel of experts and college-level educators in each subject. For a high school course to have the AP designation, the course must be audited by the College Board to ascertain it satisfies the AP curriculum. If the course is approved the school may use the AP designation and the course will be publicly listed on the AP Ledger