



800 South Taft Avenue • Loveland, CO 80537 • Office (970) 613-5090 • Fax (970) 613-5068

Advanced Placement (AP) courses

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program is a national cooperative educational endeavor between secondary schools and colleges and universities that allows students to earn college credit for high school courses. Nationally, AP offers 37 courses in 22 subject areas. Academically motivated students may take the courses at their high schools that follow the guidelines of the national College Board, which administers the final tests. AP courses are taught by dedicated and enthusiastic high school teachers who follow course guidelines developed and published by the College Board.

Pre-AP is a set of content-specific strategies used in the middle schools to build a rigorous curriculum and promote access to AP for all students.

- Teachers at all five of our middle schools participate in national training.
- Teachers develop coordinated curriculum with the high schools to prepare students for the AP courses.

Characteristics of AP:

- The program facilitates the transition of high school students into a successful college experience — more than 3,000 colleges and universities, including many international institutions, accept qualifying AP Exam grades from students for credit and/or placement.
- Program growth over the past half-decade demonstrates that high school students have embraced the vision of AP and seized the opportunity to study and learn at a higher level.
- AP Exams are administered each year in May and represent the culmination of college-level work in a given discipline in a secondary school setting.

The 35 AP Exams in 20 subject areas test students' abilities to perform at a college level. Thompson School District offers 22 courses at different high schools and students may take a course at a different school if the course is not offered at their home school. Check with high school counseling office to see which courses are offered at each school. Cost: \$10 fee plus textbook and year-end exam.

Keys to student success:

- Students are better prepared for the rigor of college level study.
- Students have an opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school.
- More than 1,000 Thompson students are enrolled in AP courses.
- Students who take AP course have better chances of being accepted in the college of their choice.