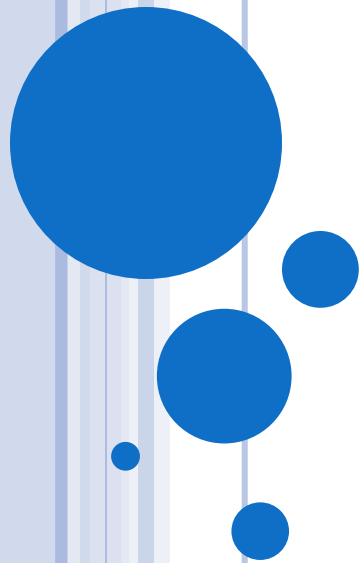


**EARLY COLLEGE  
EXPERIENCES:  
THE AP<sup>®</sup> PROGRAM  
UConn ECE  
PLTW  
NCC H.S. PARTNERSHIP**

**AT BRIEN McMAHON HIGH SCHOOL**

# AP PROGRAM



## THE BASICS

Advanced Placement Program<sup>®</sup> (AP<sup>®</sup>) **courses** are college-level courses offered in high school. AP courses reflect what is taught in top introductory college courses.

At the end of course, students take **AP Exams**—standardized exams that measure how well students have mastered college-level course work.

Students who do well on AP Exams can earn credit and/or placement into advanced courses in college.

# WHAT ARE AP COURSES LIKE?

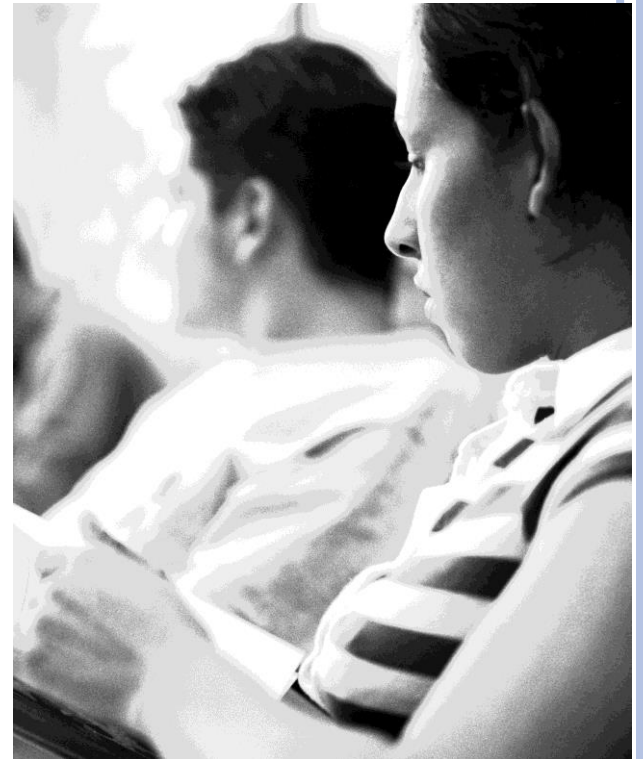
AP courses typically demand more of students than regular or honors courses.

- Classes tend to be fast-paced and cover more material than typical high school classes.
- More time, inside and outside of the classroom, is required to complete lessons, assignments and homework.
- AP teachers expect their students to think critically, analyze and synthesize facts and data, weigh competing perspectives, and write clearly and persuasively.

# THE BENEFITS OF AP COURSES

AP courses can be challenging, but it's work that pays off.

- Students develop confidence, and learn the study habits and time management skills essential for success in college.
- AP teachers are among the most prepared, dedicated, and inspiring teachers at their schools.
- AP courses are often the most interesting and fulfilling courses a student takes in high school.



# AP COURSES OFFERED BY OUR SCHOOL:

- Art History
- Biology
- Calculus AB & BC
- Chemistry
- Chinese Language and Culture
- Comparative Government and Politics
- Computer Science
- English Language and Composition
- English Literature and Composition
- Environmental Science
- European History
- French Language and Culture
- Italian Language and Culture
- Japanese Language and Culture
- Latin
- Music Theory
- Physics 1 & 2
- Psychology
- Spanish Language
- Statistics
- Studio Art
- US Government and Politics
- US History

# WHY TAKE AP EXAMS?

Most colleges and universities in the US offer credit or advanced placement for qualifying AP Exam scores.

- **Credit:** Students earn credit toward their college degrees.

*Information about AP credit and placement policies at many colleges and universities is available at [www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy](http://www.collegeboard.org/apcreditpolicy).*

- **Advanced placement:** Students can skip introductory courses and move directly into higher-level classes, and/or fulfill general education requirements.

# MORE REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD TAKE AP EXAMS

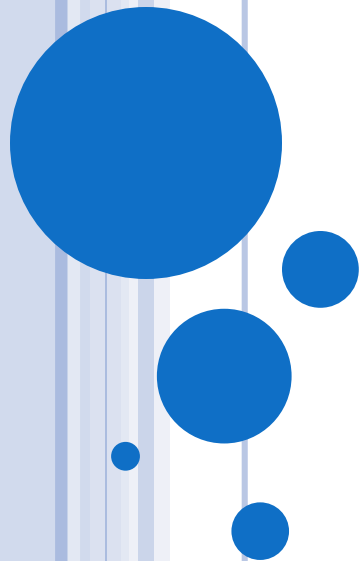
- Colleges rank “Grades in college prep courses” and “Strength of curriculum” as the **top two factors** in the admission decision.\*
- 85% of selective colleges and universities report that a student’s AP experience **favorably impacts** admission decisions.\*
- College credit earned through AP Exams allows students to move into upper-level college courses sooner, pursue a double major, and gain time to study and travel abroad.
- Students who take AP courses and exams are much more likely than their peers to complete a college degree on time.
- A recent study\* showed that students who earned a 3, 4, or 5 on the AP Exam had **higher first-year college grade point averages** and were **more likely to return for the second year of college** than non-AP students of similar ability.
- **31%** of colleges and universities consider a student’s AP experience when making decisions about which students will receive scholarships.\*

\*Visit [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) for more information.





# UConn ECE COURSES



## ABOUT ECE

- UConn Early College Experience (ECE) is a concurrent enrollment program that allows motivated high school students to take UConn courses at their high schools for both high school and college credit. Every course taken through UConn ECE is equivalent to the same course at the University of Connecticut. Students benefit by taking college courses in a setting that is both familiar and conducive to learning.

**UConn EARLY COLLEGE EXPERIENCE** 

# ABOUT ECE

- High school instructors who have been certified through the University of Connecticut serve as adjunct faculty members and teach UConn ECE courses.
- Established in 1955, UConn Early College Experience is the nation's longest running concurrent enrollment program and is nationally accredited by [The National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships \(NACEP\)](#).

**UConn** **EARLY** **COLLEGE** **EXPERIENCE** ●

# ECE COURSES AT BMHS

- Biology
- Biotechnology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- French
- Italian
- Spanish Language
- U.S. History



## WHY TAKE ECE?

- Being a part of UConn Early College Experience (ECE) is being a part of the University of Connecticut. By taking UConn ECE courses, you have officially started your college career and have gained time and flexibility to explore a variety of options in the upcoming years. You benefit by taking college courses in a familiar setting with an instructor you know.

## HOW DO I TAKE ECE

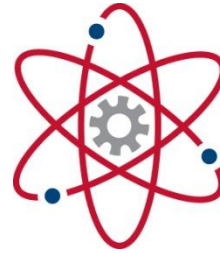
- Students register to participate in UConn Early College Experience through their high schools. A student interested in taking a UConn course through UConn Early College Experience should first speak with the course instructor and his/her school counselor.

**UConn** **EARLY** **COLLEGE** **EXPERIENCE**





**PTLW**  
**PROJECT LEAD THE WAY**



- **Today's STEM Realities**

The U.S. Department of Commerce estimates that jobs in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) will grow 17 percent by 2018—nearly double the growth for non-STEM fields. By 2018, the U.S. will have more than 1.2 million unfilled STEM jobs because there will not be enough qualified workers to fill them. STEM is where jobs are today and where the job growth will be in the future.

- PLTW is the nation's leading science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) solution in over 5,000 schools across the U.S.



# COLLEGE LEVEL RECOGNITION



PLTW classes are nationally standardized, project-based courses that prepare students for college-level work and culminate with a student assessment, which colleges and universities can use to determine if a student earns college credit. The following are some of the ways in which post-secondary institutions recognize and attract PLTW students.

- **Course Substitution Credit:** A PLTW course or sequence of courses substitutes for a program course—treated similar to AP or transfer credit.
- **Advanced Standing Credit:** A PLTW course eliminates the need for an elective course; or gives students no course credit, but gives them credit to advance their class standing (i.e. early registration, parking preferences, early financial assistance increase due to reaching junior status quicker).
- **Partial Course Credit:** The institution grants partial credit for a course, thus reducing the tuition to the student, but not the time.
- **Test-Out or Challenge Exam** Students are allowed to sit for a challenge exam, which upon successful completion will give them credit for the program course.







**THE HIGH SCHOOL  
PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM WITH  
NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

# NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE: THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- ***Who is it for?***

Highly motivated, academically qualified students.

- ***What are the qualifications?***

Junior or senior in a high school with an HSP Agreement.

Minimum 3.0 grade point average (80 minimum numerical average).

The student also must demonstrate eligibility for EN101 Composition through the Accuplacer placement test or SAT or ACT scores (see NCC web site for placement test exemptions).

- ***What paperwork is required?***

An NCC New Student Application.

- Parent signature is required if less than 18 years of age.
- The \$20.00 fee is waived.
- Please put the HSP Code (DA01) in as the Major Code.

Placement test (required of all new, 1<sup>st</sup> time students).

- An appointment is necessary.
- The English part of the test is required unless waived with SAT or ACT scores.
- The math part of the test must be taken if the student wishes to take a math course or courses with math prerequisites, such as some science and computer courses.

A high school transcript through the latest quarter.

A recommendation from a high school counselor or other administrator.

An interview/registration appointment with Bill Chagnon.



# NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE: THE PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

- ***What classes may be taken?***

The student will be eligible for any class that any other freshman is eligible for with respect to the results of the placement test and course prerequisites.

The student may take one course per semester in the fall and/or spring.

Summer classes are not available through HSP, but may be taken at the student's expense.

The class must meet outside of scheduled high school hours.

- ***What credit is awarded?***

The student will earn college credit for a successfully completed class. That credit may be used toward a degree or certificate at NCC or transferred to another college.

The individual school or school system determines if credit is granted toward a high school diploma.

- ***Cost to the student?***

HSP covers the cost of tuition and registration fees.

The student must purchase books and supplies, if any.

The student pays any lab or studio fees (they can be about \$80 per course for a science, art or computer class).



# MORE INFORMATION...

- <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home>
- <http://ece.uconn.edu/>
- <https://www.pltw.org/>
- NCC High School Partnership – See your School Counselor

