



# HUTCHINSON CENTRAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

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GABRIELLE MORQUECHO, Ed.D  
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## ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSE COMMITMENT

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

### AP Courses

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

**CONGRATULATIONS** on your student's decision to enroll in an Advanced Placement course! A.P. classes offer the rigor of a college class while still enrolled in high school. The benefits are many: academic challenge, opportunity to study subjects in depth, the chance to earn college credit while still in high school, and become more competitive for college admissions. Please carefully read the following expectations for AP.

- ❖ Students are expected to commit to meeting the demands of the course, to finish the class, and to take the A.P. exam at the end of the year.
- ❖ Amount of total homework required for each A.P. class (see back side for specifics by class).
- ❖ The AP exams cost of \$96 (\$144 for AP Seminar) will be covered by Buffalo Public Schools this year.
- ❖ **Students are required to pay a \$40 unused/cancellation fee (per exam) if they do not take the exam**
- ❖ It is import for family to understand the need to balance school, the additional time requirement for AP courses, and personal life (including sleep).
- ❖ Students are not allowed to drop an A.P. class after the beginning of the school year.
- ❖ Please sign and return this AP Commitment Form to Guidance by November 4<sup>th</sup>.

This is an amazing opportunity to earn college credit while still in high school. The AP course descriptions and course expectations are listed on the back for your reference. If you or your student has any questions about their decision to enroll in A.P. classes or have questions about specific courses, please feel free to contact the AP Coordinator, Sabrina Tanevski in Guidance.

I understand the commitment expected of students and parents and agree to attend the exam as well as pay for the exam by the due date.

Parent Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**"Putting Children And Families First To Ensure High Academic Achievement For All"**

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## Advanced Placement Course Descriptions

**AP Physics C:** Calculus-based, college-level physics course, especially appropriate for students planning to specialize or major in one of the physical sciences or engineering or health sciences. Students cultivate their understanding of physics through classroom study and activities as well as hands-on laboratory work as they explore concepts like change, force interactions, fields, and conservation.

**AP Biology:** Will require at least 30 minutes of homework per night and additional time on weekends. Due to extensive lab work, attendance is extremely important.

**AP Calculus AB or BC:** An average of one hour per night doing homework or studying. Attendance is extremely important

**AP Chemistry:** The AP Chemistry course provides students with a college-level foundation to support future advanced coursework in chemistry. Students cultivate their understanding of chemistry through inquiry based investigations, as they explore content such as: atomic structure, intermolecular forces and bonding, chemical reactions, kinetics, thermodynamics, and equilibrium. The AP Chemistry course is designed to be the equivalent of the general chemistry course usually taken during the first college year

**AP English Language:** Average one hour homework per night of writing weekly essay rhetorical analyses and reading selections from three textbooks. During the year the student will write six essays and one research paper, compose several analytical or creative responses to readings, and read one outside novel by an American author per quarter.

**AP English Literature (Grade 12):** Homework will average 3-5 hours per week and will consist of reading, writing and completing class projects. You will be challenged to extend your critical thinking skills through reading, discussing, analyzing and writing about complex works of literary merit. Environmental Science: Students must devote 2-3 hours per week to homework in addition to reading 1-2 chapters weekly of a college-level textbook. Students will also conduct complex experiments in a lab setting as well as outdoors which require thoughtful analysis and written lab reports.

**AP Spanish:** Be prepared for at least 1 hour of homework per weeknight plus some work on the weekends. This course requires weekly Spanish journal writing, editing, and rewriting as well as internet research in the target language. It requires that you read many short stories, plays and poems in Spanish and analyze literary elements of these genres through Spanish writing and speaking assignments.

**AP U.S. History:** To meet the requirements and cover the material set down by the College Board, students will be assigned approximately 5-10 of homework per week and additional work on weekends. Students will be taught how to process college level materials and write essays that adhere to college level conventions. Evaluation of student work is also based on college level expectations. Reading the book is imperative and daily attendance is extremely important.

**AP World History:** To meet the requirements and cover the material set down by the College Board, students will be assigned one to two hours of homework per class period and additional work on weekends. Students will be taught how to process college level materials and write essays that adhere to college level conventions. Evaluation of student work is also based on college level expectations.

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**AP Computer Science Principles:** AP Computer Science Principles introduces students to the breadth of the field of computer science. In this course, students will learn to design and evaluate solutions and to apply computer science to solve problems through the development of algorithms and programs. They will incorporate abstraction into programs and use data to discover new knowledge. Students will also explain how computing innovations and computing systems, including the Internet, work, explore their potential impacts, and contribute to a computing culture that is collaborative and ethical.

**AP Studio in 2D Art:** The AP Art and Design course framework is composed of course skills, big ideas, essential questions and enduring understandings, learning objectives, and essential knowledge. AP Art and Design skill categories delineate overarching understandings central to the study and practice of art and design. Each of the three skill categories consists of skills that encompass foundational to advanced learning over the span of the course. Students need to develop, practice, and apply these skills in a variety of contexts.

**AP Seminar:** AP Capstone™ is an innovative diploma program from the College Board that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges. AP Capstone is built on the foundation of two AP courses — AP Seminar and AP Research — and is designed to complement and enhance the in-depth, discipline-specific study experienced in other AP courses. In AP Seminar, students investigate real-world issues from multiple perspectives, gathering and analyzing information from various sources in order to develop credible and valid evidence-based arguments. AP Seminar is a prerequisite for AP Research. Completing AP Seminar and all its required assessment components is necessary for students to develop the skills to be successful in AP Research. In AP Research, students cultivate the skills and discipline necessary to conduct independent research and inquiry in order to produce and defend their scholarly work. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™. (10<sup>th</sup> grade Biochemistry major students)

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