

## Advanced Placement (AP) Commitment Form 2019-20

(Parents and students please **sign and return** according to the directions below.)

Central High School is dedicated to providing a strong AP program and doing all we can to help students experience success in AP courses. To help ensure student success, we believe it is important for parents and students to understand the commitment involved in taking an AP course. Parents and students are asked to read this document carefully to make sure that understanding and commitment exists before signing and returning the document to us.

Any student can take an AP course as long as he/she meets the course prerequisites. Since AP courses provide challenging college-level content and involve a considerable amount of work outside of the school day, students must possess a **true desire to learn and a commitment and willingness to work hard**. Students are urged to plan their course load with the consideration that AP courses are academically challenging and require a greater time commitment.

### AP Expectations

AP courses focus on highly challenging and rigorous content. Discussions are intense, probing, and demanding. AP homework requires students to think for themselves, clearly express ideas in writing, read for deep understanding, and engage in in-depth analysis. Students enrolled in AP courses are expected to:

- Demonstrate appropriate behavior for a college level class.
- Be motivated and willing to actively engage in the in-depth exploration of topics.
- Work hard at concept attainment and skill development.
- Do a significant amount of reading, critical analysis, and writing.
- Commit to spending a greater amount of time on course work beyond the usual school day. All AP courses involve considerable homework. Some require participation in after school sessions and/or independent summer work. **Where summer work is required, students are expected to complete that work by August 1<sup>st</sup> unless specified otherwise by the instructor. Please note that the following AP courses require summer work:**

**Biology**

**Calculus AB & BC**

**Chemistry**

**English Literature**

**English Language**

**Environmental Science**

**French**

**German**

**Human Geography**

**Microeconomics** – Requires work during fall semester in prep for spring semester

**Statistics**

**Studio Art**

Failure to meet AP expectations (see the guidelines above) may result in course removal.

### AP Exams

Each AP course has a corresponding exam that participating schools worldwide administer in May. Except for Studio Art, which is a portfolio assessment, and Computer Science Principles, which also includes a portfolio. AP Exams contain multiple-choice questions and a free-response section (either essay or problem-solving). AP Exams represent the culmination of AP courses, and are thus an integral part of the Program. **Central High School**

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**strongly encourages any student enrolled in an AP course to take the corresponding AP Exam.** Those students taking the test will register and pay in the fall. Most colleges award credit for AP courses in which students pass the exam with a 3 or better.

**Drop Policy**

Students should enroll in AP courses **only** if they are seriously willing to accept the challenge of a rigorous academic curriculum. Students must talk with their AP teacher before requesting to drop a course. AP teachers are accessible throughout the summer via email. **August 1st** is the deadline for dropping an AP course. Drop requests will only be honored for extenuating circumstances. Drop requests will not be honored for failure to complete summer work.

Please sign this form and return it to Mrs. Haluzak or Mrs. Netzer-Jensen in the Administrative Office no later than May 17th. **Your registration will not be considered complete until you have signed and returned this form.**

\_\_\_\_\_ is enrolled in the following AP courses:  
(Print Name Legibly)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**I have read and understand the AP expectations and drop policy. I have viewed the CHS Advanced Placement Information Presentation, which can be found at this [link and on Central's website](#).**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date