

Advanced Placement Statistics Frequently Asked Questions

What is AP Statistics?

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the major concepts and tools for collecting, analyzing, and drawing conclusions from data. Develop analytical and critical thinking skills as you learn to describe data patterns and departures from patterns, plan and conduct studies, use probability and simulation to explore random phenomena, estimate population parameters, test hypotheses, and make statistical inferences.

Students who successfully complete the course and examination may receive credit and/or advanced placement for a one-semester introductory college statistics course.

Why should I take AP Statistics?

Students who understand and are willing to accept that academic classes will become increasingly rigorous through high school and college often take AP classes to prepare themselves for these challenges. AP classes are weighted more than other classes and they look great on college applications if you're willing to put in the necessary work. The AP Exam, taken at the end of the year, offers the opportunity to earn college credit (often worth thousands of dollars in tuition) while still in high school.

How much and what type of work will I be doing?

A 90-minute class typically includes discussion and notes and lecture about a specific statistics topic for about 30 minutes. The remainder of the class is usually spent doing an activity such as a laboratory experiment, group work or reading discussions.

You should expect to work one-to-two hours each night. Homework typically consists of a reading assignment or questions related to laboratory assignments.

What are tests and quizzes like?

Quizzes will be given for each topic. You'll have tests at the end of each unit. The test typically includes multiple choice and problems. In mid-May, each student will take the AP Exam.

What is the AP Exam?

The AP Exam is the end-of-course test for AP Statistics. It is administered by the College Board. There are two parts on the exam. Part I contains multiple choice questions. Part II consists of 6 free-response questions. Calculators with statistical capabilities are required for the exam. Each part counts as 50% of the score. Students have about three hours and fifteen minutes to take the exams. Scores range from 1 to 5 and students who get a 3, 4, or 5 stand a good chance of receiving college credit for their score.

Who can I talk to if I need more information?

It's likely that some of your friends and acquaintances have taken an AP class before, and talking with them might give you an idea of what's in store. The best way would probably be to speak with Ms. Sharon Baker. You can email her at sharon.baker@nn.k12.va.us. You can also visit the College Board's AP Statistics website here: <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-statistics>.

Information on AP courses was provided by The College Board. See [AP Courses](#) for more information.