



Earl of March Secondary School

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Advanced Placement® Programs at Earl of March

What is Advanced Placement?

Advanced Placement is an international program administered by the College Board, the same organization that is in charge of SAT testing. **An Advanced Placement examination credit is an internationally-recognized first-year university credit.**

AP offers the unique opportunity for motivated students to tailor their academic program to their interests and strengths. Unlike the International Baccalaureate or the Gifted Program, in which students must travel as a cohort and take all subjects within those programs, Advanced Placement allows students to explore more deeply **specifically in the subject areas that interest them**, without tying them to doing so in all subjects.

Frequently Asked Questions:

How do Advanced Placement courses work at Earl of March?

In Ontario, students follow the Ministry of Education curriculum. At Earl of March, we offer enriched versions of the Ontario curriculum courses to assist students in preparing for AP exams. At the completion of the course, students earn the Ontario course credit. To earn an AP first-year university credit, students may then choose to write a College Board AP examination, the results of which are *not* related to the student's Ontario course grade.

Are AP courses “marked harder” than regular U courses?

No. Course work and exams are assessed according to the Ontario Curriculum standards in each subject, and College Board AP exam results do not affect the student's Ontario course grade.

Do I have to take the AP exam? What if I take the exam and I don't do well?

Many students choose the AP stream for the rich classroom experience rather than strictly for the university credit. Students who take AP-stream courses are *not* obliged to take the College Board AP exam. In all courses, students must take the Earl of March course exam at the end of the term. Students may then choose to write the College Board AP exam in May to earn a university-equivalency credit. Furthermore, AP exam results are disclosed to universities *only* if the student chooses to send them.

Do Canadian universities accept AP credits?

Yes, and most will accept several credits towards a degree program. The number and type of credits varies by university and program. Most Canadian universities require an AP exam grade of 4 (out of a possible 5) to grant Advanced Standing for required and/or elective courses.

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See <http://apcanada.collegeboard.org/participating-universities> or individual universities' websites for specific details by program and university.

How well do Earl of March students do on AP exams?

Exceptionally well! The AP College Board considers an exam successful if it receives a grade of 3 or higher out of a possible 5 levels. In the past five years, 92-98% of Earl of March students who took an AP exam received a grade of 3 or higher, compared to 79-80% in Ontario and 60-61% worldwide.

Furthermore, many Earl students are awarded the prestigious designation of **AP Scholar**: a grade of 3 or higher in three or more exams.

Registering for Advanced Placement Courses:

Students do not need to apply or register for the AP program before choosing courses. Advanced Placement courses begin in Grade 11 or 12, depending on the subject, which allows students to 'find their feet' in the junior grades before deciding what interests they might like to explore at a greater level of depth and challenge in the senior grades.

To take Advanced Placement courses, students choose the AP version of the course (indicated by an R or an H) when entering their course selections. Please see the table below for **AP course paths** at Earl of March.

AP Exam	Course path
Biology	SNC2D or 2DF → SBI3U → SBI4UR
Chemistry	SNC2D or 2DF → SCH3U → SCH4UR
Physics 1	SNC2D or 2DF → SPH3UR and SPH4UR (both required for exam)
Physics 2	SNC2D or 2DF → SPH3UR and SPH4UR (both required for exam)
English Language and Composition	ENG 2D → ENG 3UR (or ENG 4UR)
English Literature and Composition	ENG2D → ENG3UR → ENG4UR
French Language and Culture	FIF 2D → FIF 3UH (Note: because the French exam is based on language skills rather than specific content, all Earl French Immersion students have the skills to write the exam by Grade 11)
US History	CHC2D or 2DF → CHA3UR
European History	CHC2D or 2DF → CHW3M or 3MF → CHY4UR
Computer Science	Guided independent preparation*
Calculus AB	Guided independent preparation*

Course in bold is the course that is directly connected to AP exam preparation in that subject.

*Exams offered as independent preparation will be hosted at Earl of March only when there is sufficient interest.

Further Questions about Advanced Placement?

Please see the Earl of March AP website, https://earlofmonthss.ocdsb.ca/academics/a_p_program, or contact the Earl of March AP Coordinator, Ms. Laura Johnstone, at Laura.Johnstone@ocdsb.ca. You may also consult the CollegeBoard AP website at <https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/>.