Forsyth Central High School
Advanced Placement (AP) Program Student Characteristics

Advanced Placement Program (AP) is nationally recognized for introducing students to the challenges of college-level work while they are still in high school. AP gives students an opportunity to earn credit, advanced placement—or both—for college. AP courses are designed with highly-motivated, hard-working, and high-achieving student in mind! The question students & parents often ask about the AP Program is—

Am I (or is my student) ready to be successful in an AP course?

To begin, students and parents should evaluate readiness for Advanced Placement (AP) courses by looking objectively at the student’s documented academic performance (grades, report cards, standardized test scores, etc.), not just academic ability or perceived academic potential alone. Conversations with current teachers and school counselors about the student’s academic progress and potential for success in AP courses is strongly recommended prior to making a decision to register for an AP course. Like any challenging & rewarding endeavor, AP courses require a large investment of time and energy on the part of the student in order to be successful. The traits current FCHS counselors, administrators, teachers, parents, and students have identified as being critical for success in any AP course are summarized below.

Successful AP students are:

- Motivated & dedicated to successfully completing challenging academic work both inside and outside of the classroom;
- Successful managers of their time (able to multitask, to prioritize activities, to make deadlines, and to balance academic & extracurricular activities well);
- Strong organizers of academic resources (ability to manage and maintain textbooks, online resources, notebooks, and other required class resources independently);
- Strong academic communication skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening skills);

Successful AP students have:

- High interest in learning academic subjects at an advanced, college level
- Strong academic communication skills (reading, writing, speaking, listening)
- Well-developed critical thinking skills

  - Knowledge—Recalling academic information
  - Comprehension—Understanding academic information
  - Application—Using academic information in a new way
  - Analysis—Breaking down academic information into smaller, coherent parts
  - Synthesis—Putting pieces of academic information together in new ways
  - Evaluation—Making judgments about academic information and justifying positions/opinions

- Positive attitudes about engaging in challenging academic work both at school and outside of school

Successful AP students will develop:

- Academic, critical thinking, time-management, and study skills
- Creative, narrative and expository writing abilities
- Skill in analyzing and synthesizing information in innovative ways
- Increased self-confidence and motivation
Successful AP students are more competitive in college admissions, better prepared to meet college expectations (including maintaining eligibility for the HOPE scholarship), and may earn college credit with a head start on finishing college in four years or less!

Advanced Placement classes require a tremendous commitment of time and energy both inside and outside of the classroom. The workload and academic expectations will be on a level appropriate for college freshmen. We encourage parents and students to find out more information about AP courses and expectations at http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/about.html.

### Planned AP Course Offerings / Forsyth Central High School
#### 2011-12 School Year

**English/Language Arts**
- AP Language & Composition (11)
  - Mrs. Karen Knable
- AP Literature & Composition (12)
  - Mrs. Angela Hollis
  - Mrs. Margaret Ann Thompson

**Math**
- AP Statistics (11-12)
  - Mrs. Deborah Barrineau
- AP Calculus AB (12)
  - Mrs. Dawn Dirst
- AP Calculus AB/BC (11-12)
  - Mrs. Dawn Dirst

**Science**
- AP Biology (10-12)
  - Mr. Bill Schuyler
- AP Chemistry (11-12)
  - Mrs. Kelli Schuyler
- AP Environmental Science (11-12)
  - Mrs. Jessica Dunne
- AP Physics (11-12)
  - Mrs. Laura Englebert

**Social Studies**
- AP World History (10)
  - Mr. Eric Prince
- AP US History (11)
  - Mrs. Susan Nodine
- AP US Government & Politics (12)
  - Mr. Patrick Webb
- AP Comparative Govt (11-12)
  - Mr. Patrick Webb
- AP European History (11-12)
  - Mrs. Jennifer Garner
- AP Human Geography (9-12)
  - Mrs. Jennifer Garner

**Fine Arts**
- AP Studio Art
  - 2D Design
  - 3D Design
  - Drawing
  - Mr. Kevin Whitley
- AP Art History
  - Mr. Kevin Whitley

**World Languages**
- AP Spanish Language (11-12)
  - Dr. Gloria Green

**NOTES:**
*Please check the online 2011-12 Course Digest and Course Registration Packet for course perquisites and paths of study.

**Based on seat availability, online AP courses may be available on a case-by-case basis through the Bulldog Virtual Learning Lab to address schedule conflicts or courses that are not offered on site.