AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics

How do I plan to complete AP Biology, AP Chemistry, and/or AP Physics?

All of the AP science courses are completed in three credits over two consecutive years. For example, to complete AP Biology you would complete Biology 30SA in one year, and then in the following year you would complete Biology 40SA and Biology AP 42S.

When a student is considering all three AP science courses, we recommend they start with Biology 30SA in grade 10. Then, in grade 11 they start Chemistry 30SA and Physics 30SA. We recommend starting Chemistry and Physics in grade 11 because the students' math skills will be more advanced.

Note: a 40SA science course and the matching AP 42S course must be completed within the same year.

Biology 30SA sounds hard, should I take Bio 30S first?

No. The AP Biology curriculum is planned out over three courses: Bio 30SA, Bio 40SA, and AP Bio 42S. Bio 30S is not a preparatory class for Bio 30SA.

Students can take Bio 30SA in grade 10 or in grade 11. If a student takes Bio 30SA in grade 11, they might be able to easily coordinate a spare in the same semester (if they wanted to have additional time in the school day to study). Students in grade 10 do not generally have spares; however, a grade 10 student taking Bio 30SA could meet with a counsellor to discuss possible options to have a spare (depending on their overall credit plan).

*Same for Chemistry and Physics.

I did really well in Bio 30S, can I move into Bio 40SA?*

No. The curriculum for AP Bio is planned out over three courses: Bio 30SA, Bio 40SA, and AP Bio 42S. Even if a student does well in Bio 30S, they will not be prepared for Bio 40SA.

If a student completes Bio 30S and they really want to take courses in AP Biology, they could still choose take Bio 30SA. Please note: a student can earn a maximum of one credit for Biology at grade 11 level. If a student completes both Bio 30S and Bio 30SA, they will earn only one credit (even if they pass both courses).

*Same for Chemistry and Physics.

I really love science, can I take Bio 30SA, Chem 30SA, and Physics 30SA in grade 10?

No. AP science courses are completed in three credits over two consecutive years. You won't have enough room in your grade 11 timetable.

If you are interested in taking multiple AP courses, we recommend that you meet with a counsellor to do some credit planning.

AP at Massey FAQ

AP Calculus

How do I plan to complete AP Calculus?

In order to complete AP Calculus, you must complete Pre-Cal 30S and Pre-Cal 40S in grade 11. Then, in grade 12, you complete two credits: Introduction to Calculus/Advanced Math 40S (first semester) and Calculus AB AP 42S (second semester).

Note: if a student wants/needs only one credit of calculus, they can take Intro to Calculus/Advanced Math 40S only (and not take the AP Calculus course and exam).

I didn't complete Pre-Cal 40S in grade 11, is there a way I can still take AP Calculus in grade 12?

Intro to Calculus/Advanced Math 40S is always scheduled in first semester, and it requires knowledge and skills from Pre-Cal 40S. Unfortunately, summer school options in Manitoba are limited. In summer 2024, Pre-Cal 40S was not offered via InformNet. It is unlikely that you will be able to take AP Calc at Massey without completing Pre-Cal 40S in grade 11.

InformNet does typically offer 'Intro to Calculus 45S' (half credit) during the regular school year. If you are applying to a university program that requires a course in Calculus, it might be possible to take the Informnet Calculus half-credit course during the school year. We recommend that you review specific university admission requirements and meet with a counsellor.

AP English and AP Psychology

How do I plan to complete an AP English course?

Massey offers AP English Language and Composition (available to students in grade 11) and AP English Literature and Composition (available to students in grade 12). Students who want to take AP English in grade 11 or grade 12 should take English 20FA in grade 10.

Note: it's possible that some years, there won't be enough student requests to offer an elective class. In 2024 – 2025, Massey will not be offering AP English Literature and Composition.

To complete AP English Language and Composition, a student would take both English Transactional Focus 30SA and English Language and Composition AP 42S in their grade 11 year. To complete AP English Literature and Composition, a student would take both English Literary Focus 40SA and English Literature and Composition 42S in their grade 12 year.

Note: Students who request English Transactional Focus 30SA must also request English Language and Composition AP 42S. Students who request English Literary Focus 40SA must also request English Literature and Composition AP 42S. If a student would like to take only one semester of English, they should request English Comprehensive Focus 30S (in grade 11) or English Comprehensive Focus 40S (in grade 12).

How do I plan to complete AP Psychology?

In order to take AP Psychology, you should first take Psychology 40S. There is no pre-requisite for Psychology 40S, and it is available to students in grades 11 and 12. Note: you do not need to take Psychology 40S and AP Psychology in the same year.

How do I plan to complete AP Computer Science?

In order to take AP Computer Science, you must first complete Computer Science 20S, Computer Science 30S, and Computer Science 40S. Note: you do not need to take Computer Science 40S and AP Computer Science in the same year.

General AP questions

AP courses + VM transcripts

When you are enrolled in an AP course, that course will show up on your VM transcript. The final AP mark on your transcript will be calculated using assessments that are set by your AP teacher.

When you write a formal AP exam, that formal exam mark is not used in the calculation of your final mark on your VM transcript.

When you write a formal AP exam, you will receive your exam results online (in 'My AP').

Do AP courses count toward graduation and Grad Honour Roll?

Yes. Even though AP courses can be considered 'university level' learning, they count as Grade 12 electives toward graduation and for Grad Honour Roll.

Do I need AP courses to get into university?

No. AP courses are great preparation for university, but they are not required for university admission.

One small exception might be that some very specific programs (ie: Engineering) at some specific universities (ie: U of T) might strongly recommend / require Calculus. We recommend that you review specific university admission requirements (maybe even in grade 10 or 11)

AP courses + college/university admission

When you apply to college/university, you will submit your VM transcript. You request your VM transcript from VM Student Services.

You can decide if you want to share your formal AP exam scores; it is not mandatory. If you want a college/university to see your formal AP exam scores, you will need to submit a formal AP exam report. You request a formal AP exam report from the College Board (online in 'My AP').

Some colleges/universities will offer course credit for 'good' exam scores (usually a 4 or 5). Some colleges/universities will offer financial scholarship for 'good' AP exam scores (usually a 4 or 5). Every college/university has their own policy regarding AP exam scores, and we encourage students to review specific college/university policies and consult with admission departments.

Do AP courses count toward college/university pre-requisites?

AP courses often count toward specific college/university pre-requisites. We encourage students to review specific college/university admission requirements and consult with admission departments.

Can I take a course at Brandon University when I'm in grade 12?

Yes. Your average across all completed 30S and 40S courses must be greater than or equal to 80%. Please make an appointment with Ms. Mills in the Career Centre for more information about this option (April/May is the best time of year to make these plans).