

A comparison between IB and AP

(For more information, please visit IBO.org and APCentral.CollegeBoard.com)

International Baccalaureate	Advanced Placement
International Standard of Excellence	National Standard of Excellence
Comprehensive curriculum of college-level work	College-level courses
Encourages academically talented and highly motivated students	Encourages academically talented and highly motivated students
College preparation oriented, college credit may be earned	College credit oriented
Tests are criterion-referenced; students are scored against a set standard.	Tests are scored through a process called equating – comparing this year's results to the previous year's results.
Teachers are externally monitored and given feedback.	All AP courses at AHS successfully complete an audit by College Board.
Student must be in IB class.	Any student can take an exam.
Score is a combination of projects done in class and exam in May.	Score is the result of the exam in May.
In some disciplines, prepared for IB and AP exams	Prepared for AP exams
Students test in 6 subject areas at two different levels.	Students generally take exam in area of strength.
Exams based on broad general understanding of concepts and fundamental themes. Questions emphasize essay writing.	Exams based on specific content of courses with objective questions and essays.
Oral assessments in English and foreign languages.	Oral exam in foreign languages.
Extended Essay; Theory of Knowledge; Creativity, Action and Service requirements	No external requirements
Register in the fall, no refunds	Register in the fall short time frame for refunds
Exams in May	Exams in May