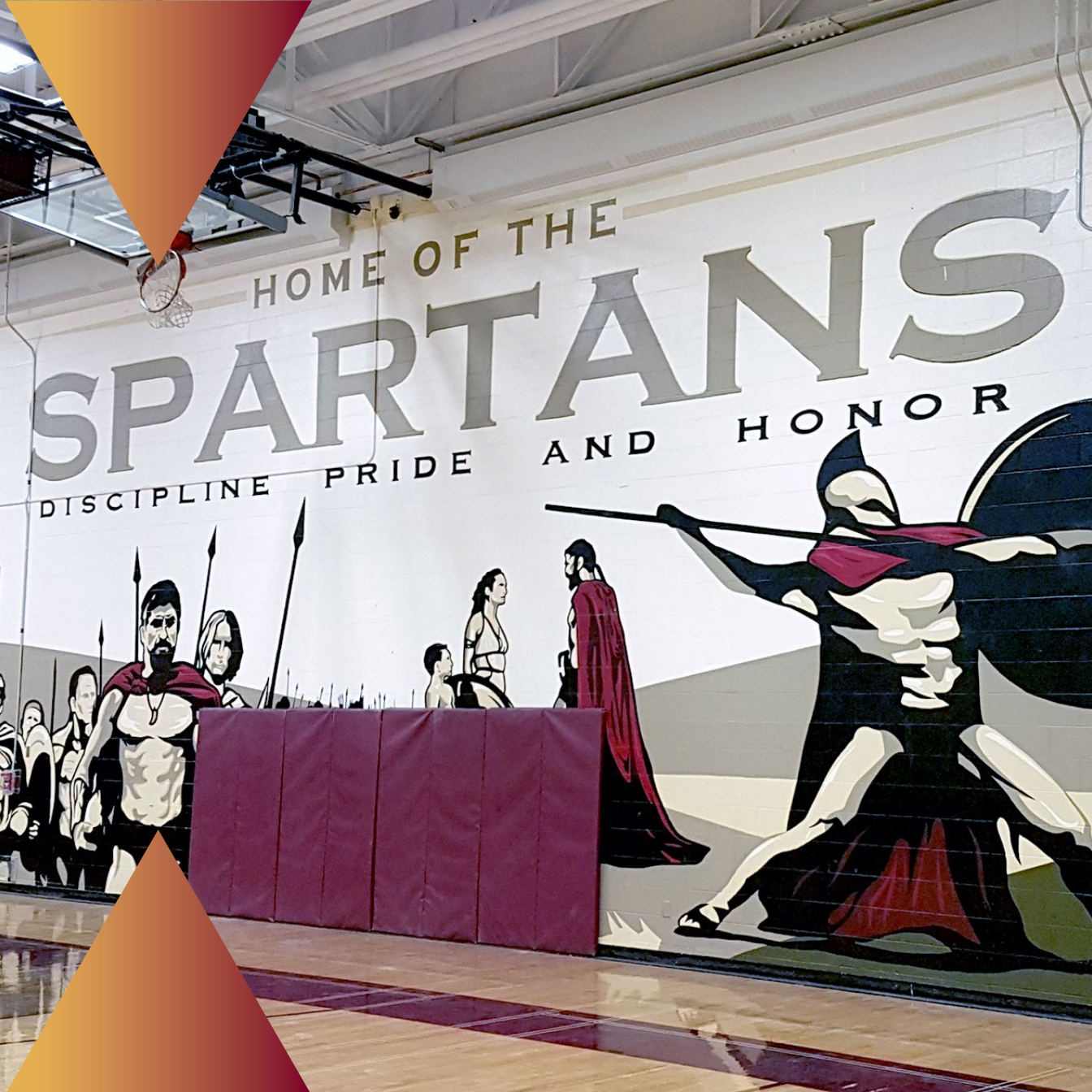




# **ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

**AT ARCHBISHOP O'LEARY  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**



# WELCOME TO ARCHBISHOP O'LEARY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, HOME OF THE SPARTANS!

At Archbishop O'Leary, we are proud to offer a diversity of programs that support the needs and aspirations of our many talented students. The AP program at Archbishop O'Leary is where academic motivation, interest in subject areas, the drive for post-secondary preparedness, and natural curiosity meet.

Students taking AP classes gain numerous advantages in their learning and develop skills that extend well beyond the high school classroom. In AP classes, students engage in work from both the Alberta curriculum and the AP curriculum. This enrichment gives students a greater sense of confidence as they move into the post-secondary world. The hard work and dedication our AP students consistently show is a testament to their love of learning and drive to excel. Our AP classes are dynamic environments where students thrive on working with exceptional teachers and their like-minded peers.

Every year, our AP students show us that determination, commitment, curiosity, hard work, and resilience pay off. Whether taking one AP class or many, our students know that AP can be the perfect way to enhance their high school academic experience. At Archbishop O'Leary, we celebrate a legacy of excellence, and we hope you consider making AP part of your academic legacy.

Sincerely,  
Archbishop O'Leary Administration

# WHAT IS ADVANCED PLACEMENT?

The Advanced Placement (AP) program was created in 1955 and is run by the College Board based in New York City. The core idea of the AP program is that high school students can complete university-level work while still in high school and write exams that show their level of mastery in those studies. If students score well enough on those exams they can be awarded credit for first-year university courses or be allowed to go on directly to second-year courses.

Since the original conception of the program involving a few colleges and prep schools, AP has spread far. Although primarily found in the United States and Canada, AP classes are recognized in over 100 countries around the world. In fact, many universities and colleges will look more favourably at a student's application if their transcript includes AP marks, regardless of the score. This is because, beyond the possibility of receiving university credit, the AP program prepares students for the fast pace and academic challenges of university life.



# AP AT ARCHBISHOP O'LEARY

The AP program at Archbishop O'Leary is all about ensuring student success. Many academic students have reservations about taking AP courses, believing that the additional content will result in a lower mark. While the additional AP content does have to be covered, student grades are not typically impacted as this content is assessed separately. On the next page, some of the benefits of the AP program at Archbishop O'Leary are listed for your consideration.

# OUR O'LEARY AP STUDENTS...

- write the same assessments for their Alberta curriculum grade as other classes in the school, and often score higher due to the enhanced instruction they have received;
- have a chance at doing better in many classes, since AP material is presented and assessed as enrichment and may be used at the teachers' discretion to replace or boost regular course marks;
- are surrounded by like-minded, hard-working students who are focused on success in their courses. The opportunities for peer support of in-class work are amazing;
- have the opportunity to participate in a vast number of complementary courses and activities in CTS, Fine Arts, Athletics, and more!

The AP courses do require a higher level of academic rigour and do move at a faster pace, but this is exactly what an AP student wants! Rising to that challenge better prepares you for the demands of university and the quicker pace means you are not bored while waiting for the rest of the class to catch up.

*Qualifying AP exam scores earn university credit in nearly all universities in the United States and Canada and are recognized in over 100 other countries worldwide. Scores of 3 or 4 on AP Exams fulfill admission requirements in many universities in the UK and Europe.*



WORDS: 3,41,01

THE  
WORLDLY

THE  
ASTRAL

THE  
MEDIAN

THERE'S TOO MANY OF THEM!

gall bladder

ears  
pancreas

eyes

lung

Kidneys

# AP

# TESTIMONIALS

*Coming into Grade 10, I was a little worried about taking AP courses because I thought that I wouldn't be able to keep up with the AP material, but I learned that the AP can just be an advantage."*

*Emjay McBrydie,  
Class of 2024*

*AP really has helped me in the way that all my classmates and my teachers, they're all really supportive, they're all very inclusive; most of my classmates are practically the same in AP - smaller class sizes as well.*

*Prad Niraula, AP Scholar,  
Class of 2024*

*I really like the idea of taking a University-level exam at O'Leary first rather than doing it in my first year because it just seems a lot more comfortable, a lot more manageable.*

*Kendra Merkosky, AP Scholar,  
Class of 2024*

# AP COURSES AVAILABLE AT O'LEARY

## GRADE 10

Students in Grade 10 can begin to explore their academic areas of interest and passion. Students have the opportunity to choose Math 10C AP, Science 10 AP, and English 10-1 AP to get an enriched experience and decide what senior-level AP courses they would like to pursue. Grade 10 students will also choose either Social Studies 10-1, or Social Fast Track, and are also encouraged to pursue as many foundational credits in CTS, Fine Arts, Modern Languages, and Physical Education as possible.

## GRADES 11 and 12

Students in Grades 11 and 12 can choose from a variety of senior-level AP courses, most of which are a 2-year experience. Examinations are written in May, after the second year of the course. Art and design courses do not include an examination, but rather a portfolio submission, also done in May of the second year.



## YEAR ONE CLASSES

- Math 20-1 AP and Math 30-1 AP
- English 20-1 AP
- Biology 20 AP
- Chemistry 20 AP
- Art 20 AP

## YEAR TWO CLASSES

- Math 31 AP and/or Statistics 35 AP
- English 30-1 AP
- Biology 30 AP
- Chemistry 30 AP
- Art 30 AP
- Ceramics 35 AP
- Computer Science 30 AP

General Psychology 20 and 30 AP are a unique set of courses, done in a single semester, in either Grade 11 or 12, with the examination taking place in May of that semester.





# AP CHALLENGES

We understand that some students have gifts and abilities that can propel them beyond their regular course content in other classes at O'Leary. For this reason, with approval on a case-by-case basis, you can elect to challenge an AP exam in a course that you are not receiving AP instruction in. In previous years, students have challenged AP exams in the following:

- Spanish Language & Culture
- Physics 1 (usually Grade 11)
- Physics 2 (usually Grade 12)

# POSSIBLE SCHEDULE

These schedules show what a student enrolled in a full AP program could expect. This is not necessarily the case for most AP students, as many choose to only do some courses at the AP level.

## GRADE 10

### SEMESTER 1

- English 10 AP
- Science 10 AP
- Phys Ed 10
- Fast Track Social (full-year)

### SEMESTER 2

- Math 10C AP
- Religion 15
- Fast Track Social continued
- Options classes\*

## GRADE 11

### SEMESTER 1

- English 20-1 AP
- Religion 25 & CALM
- Math 20-1 AP
- Physics 20 or Option classes

### SEMESTER 2

- Biology 20 AP
- Math 30-1 AP
- Chemistry 20 AP
- Spare or Psychology AP or Option classes

## GRADE 12

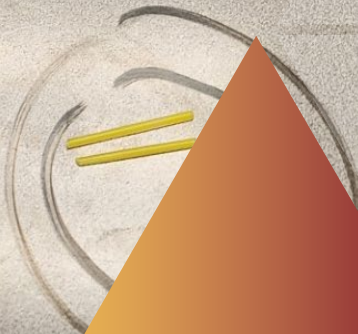
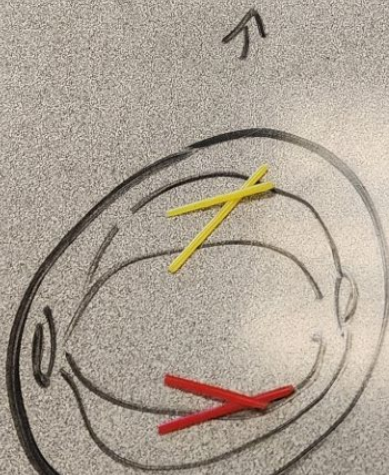
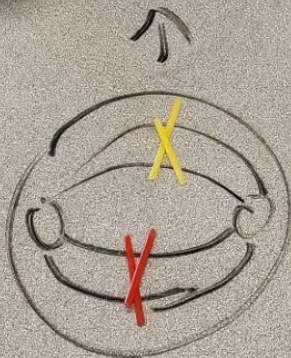
### SEMESTER 1

- Religion 35
- Chemistry 30 AP
- Statistics 35 AP
- Math 31 AP

### SEMESTER 2

- English 30-1 AP
- Biology 30 AP
- Physics 30 or Option classes
- Spare or Option classes

*\*Students should select options based on what interests them, benefits them, and aligns with the other AP classes they want to take in Art, Ceramics, or Computer Science.*



# AP AWARDS

## AP SCHOLAR

An AP Scholar is a student who has taken at least 3 AP exams, and received scores of 3 or higher, on 3 exams or more.

An AP Scholar with Honours has met the Scholar criteria and has also scored a grade point average of 3.25 or higher on their AP exams.

An AP Scholar with Distinction is an AP Scholar who has scored a grade point average of 3.5 or higher on all AP exams taken, and has scored 3 or higher on at least 5 AP exams.

There are many universities and colleges in North America that offer scholarships specific to AP Scholars.

AP Scholars are also recognized by both Archbishop O'Leary (at our annual awards ceremony) and the College Board.

# AP QUESTIONS

***Can I take the 20/30 senior-level AP courses if I did not take AP at the 10-level?***

Yes! Students who discover they have an aptitude or interest in a subject area can certainly join AP at the 20-level.

***Are there fees for taking AP classes?***

Yes. Students are expected to pay program examination and administration fees. For a complete list of school fees, please refer to the School Fee Schedule for the appropriate school year, available on our school's website.

***Do you have AP Social Studies?***

At Archbishop O'Leary, we offer Fast Track Social Studies, where students complete all three levels of -1 high school Social Studies in Grade 10. This allows them to take additional courses in Grades 11 and 12, which many AP students find beneficial.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Archbishop O'Leary Advanced Placement  
[archbishopoleary.ecsd.net](http://archbishopoleary.ecsd.net)

AP Students  
[apstudent.collgeboard.org](http://apstudent.collgeboard.org)

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