

FAQ's

Advanced Placement course credit vs. Mount Marty College course credit

Students and parents should contact a counselor with specific questions if not answered below.

1) How are AP (Advanced Placement) tests scored?

The AP tests are scored on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest.

2) What score do I need on the AP test to get college credit?

While the score required to get credit varies from school to school, many colleges require a 3 on the AP test while more selective schools may require a 4 or even a 5.

3) Is it better to take an AP course for credit through Mount Marty or just take the AP test?

Some of our AP courses are not offered for Mount Marty credit. For those that are, Mount Marty credit is financially a great deal. For \$60 per credit hour, students can get college credit much cheaper than paying for it in college.

In addition, students are graded over an entire semester, whereas a student must perform on the AP test at a single sitting (one test on one day) to get the required score for college credit. The AP score (for example, a 3 vs. a 5) might determine how much credit the student is awarded, whereas the student knows what credit they will receive for a course taken through Mount Marty. For most students, it is to their advantage to take a course for Mount Marty credit.

4) Will all colleges accept AP credit?

While it is not universal, most colleges will accept AP credit although colleges may vary on the score required or may not accept an AP test score in a student's major. Students should check the AP credit policy for the colleges they are interested in.

5) Will all colleges accept Mount Marty credit?

Again, while it is not universal, most colleges will accept Mount Marty credit, as it is an accredited institution. Credits should transfer from Mount Marty, but colleges may vary in how they transcript the credit. For example, one semester of AP English Lang/Comp may be transcribed as an English credit, while the other semester may be transcribed as Humanities credit.

6) How do my AP grades get transcribed at a college?

Once a student has a qualifying test score to receive credit, the student must request that the AP score (from the College Board) be sent to the college. When the college receives the score, it will go on the transcript as credit (most will transcript it as an EX, which means "by exam"), but will not receive a grade and it will not be figured into the college GPA (grade point average).

7) How does Mount Marty credit get posted to my college transcript?

The summer after a student graduates, they should request from the Mount Marty Registrar's office that a transcript be sent to the college they are going to attend. One of the big differences from the AP credit is that the Mount Marty credit should be transcribed with the grade the student received for the course and it should be figured into the college gpa.

8) Why are some AP courses offered for credit through Mount Marty College, while others are not?

For a course to be offered for credit through Mount Marty College, the teacher must have a Masters Degree in the subject or a Masters Degree and at least 18 graduate credit hours in the subject. Teaching an AP course does not require the high school teacher to have a Masters Degree, however, they do have extensive background in the subject (certified to teach the subject) and have attended Advanced Placement Workshops.

9) Why should I consider taking AP courses?

There are many benefits to taking AP courses. Earning college credit gives the student more flexibility with their college course scheduling and could even allow them to graduate from college early because of the amount of college credit earned in high school.

Other benefits include improved study habits, being better prepared academically to handle college level work, and being more competitive when applying to colleges or for scholarships. College athletes may be able to take fewer credits during their season if they have earned credits in high school. Other students may be able to pick up another major because of credits earned in high school.