

Courses at a Glance

This document summarizes content explained in more detail in the “Introduction” and “Course Map” sections of Pre-AP Course Guides.

Common to All Pre-AP Courses

Pre-AP Approach to Teaching and Learning

- **Focused Content:** Course Frameworks, Model Lessons
- **Horizontally and Vertically Aligned Instruction:** Shared Principles, Areas of Focus
- **Target Assessments and Feedback:** Learning Checkpoints, Performance Tasks, Final Exam
- **Collaborative Educator Workshops:** Teacher and Leader professional learning

Pre-AP Shared Principles

- Close Observation and Analysis
- Evidence-Based Writing
- Higher-Order Questioning
- Academic Conversation

Pre-AP Course	Unit Titles	Framework and Unit Structure	Areas of Focus	Model Lessons	Assessments
English 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Telling Details 2. Pivotal Words and Phrases 3. Compelling Evidence 4. Powerful Openings 	<p>Course framework is the same for English 1 and 2 and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 Big Ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engaging with Texts ▪ Constructing Texts ▪ Focusing on Language ▪ Investigating through Research ▪ Entering the Conversation ○ Enduring Understandings ○ Learning Objectives ○ Essential Knowledge statements <p>Each unit has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Genre focus/performance task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Closely • Valuing Evidence • Noticing Language Choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model lessons are included for approximately 50% of instructional time, varying by unit • Lesson Sets for 3-6 weeks for each unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 formative Learning Checkpoints per unit • 1 Performance Task per unit with Scoring Guidelines (culminating reading and writing experience) • Summative Final Exam administered during a six-week window at the end of the course
English 2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Moves in Argument 2. Persuasion in Literature 3. Voice in Synthesis 4. Purpose in Poetry and Prose 	<p>Course framework is the same for English 1 and 2 and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 Big Ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Engaging with Texts ▪ Constructing Texts ▪ Focusing on Language ▪ Investigating through Research ▪ Entering the Conversation ○ Enduring Understandings ○ Learning Objectives ○ Essential Knowledge statements <p>Each unit has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Genre focus/performance task 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading Closely • Valuing Evidence • Noticing Language Choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Model lessons are included for approximately 50% of instructional time, varying by unit • Lesson Sets for 4-5 weeks for each unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 formative Learning Checkpoints per unit • 1 Performance Task per unit with Scoring Guidelines (culminating reading and writing experience) • Summative Final Exam administered during a six-week window at the end of the course

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Algebra 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Linear Functions and Linear Equations Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities Quadratic Functions Exponent Properties and Exponential Functions 	<p>4 Big Ideas throughout each unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patterns of Change Representations Modeling with Functions Solutions <p>Each unit has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4-5 Key Concepts Learning Objectives Essential Knowledge Statements Content Boundaries Cross Connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater Authenticity of Applications and Modeling Engagement in Mathematical Argumentation Connections Among Multiple Representations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model lessons are included for a range of instructional time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1=~55% Unit 2=~30% Unit 3=~45% Unit 4=~40% Model lessons typically span 1-3 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 formative Learning Checkpoints per unit 1 Performance Task per unit, with Scoring Guidelines At least 1 practice Performance Task per unit, with Scoring Guidelines Summative Final Exam administered during a six-week window at the end of the course
Geometry with Statistics	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Measurement in Data Tools and Techniques of Geometric Measurement Measurement in Congruent and Similar Figures Measurement in Two and Three Dimensions 	<p>3 Big Ideas throughout each unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measurement Transformation Comparison and Composition <p>Each unit has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Key Concepts Learning Objectives Essential Knowledge Statements Content Boundaries Cross Connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater Authenticity of Applications and Modeling Engagement in Mathematical Argumentation Connections Among Multiple Representations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model lessons are included for a range of instructional time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1=~100% Unit 2=~50% Unit 3=~30% Unit 4=~10% Model lessons typically span 1-3 days 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 formative Learning Checkpoints per unit 1 Performance Task per unit, with Scoring Guidelines At least 1 practice Performance Task per unit, with Scoring Guidelines Summative Final Exam administered during a six-week window at the end of the course
Biology	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Ecological Systems Evolution Cellular Systems Genetics 	<p>4 Big Ideas throughout each unit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The process of evolution drives the diversity and unity of life Growth and reproduction in biological systems are dependent upon the cycling of matter and the transformation of energy Biological systems, occurring at various scales, respond and adapt to stimuli in order to maintain dynamic homeostasis Genetic mechanisms are essential to maintaining biological systems <p>Each unit has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3-7 Key Concepts Learning Objectives Essential Knowledge Statements Content Boundaries Cross Connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasis on Analytical Reading and Writing Strategic Use of Mathematics Attention to Modeling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model lessons are included for a range of instructional time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1=~70% Unit 2=~40% Unit 3=~40% Unit 4=~35% Model lessons typically span 1-3 days Most model lessons engage students in scientific practices and investigations to help teachers meet district laboratory requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 formative Learning Checkpoints per unit 1 Performance Task per unit, with Scoring Guidelines 1 practice Performance Task per unit, with Scoring Guidelines Summative Final Exam administered during a six-week window at the end of the course

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Chemistry	1. Structure and Properties of Matter 2. Chemical Bonding and Interactions 3. Chemical Quantities 4. Chemical Transformations	4 Big Ideas throughout each unit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structure and Properties Energy Transformations Each unit has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2-5 Key Concepts Learning Objectives Essential Knowledge Statements Content Boundaries Cross Connections 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emphasis on Analytical Reading and Writing Strategic Use of Mathematics Attention to Modeling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model lessons are included for a range of instructional time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unit 1=~50% Unit 2=~40% Unit 3=~30% Unit 4=~30% Model lessons typically span 1-3 days Most model lessons engage students in scientific practices and investigations to help teachers meet district laboratory requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 formative Learning Checkpoints per unit 1 Performance Task per unit, with Scoring Guidelines 1 practice Performance Task per unit, with Scoring Guidelines Summative Final Exam administered during a six-week window at the end of the course
World History & Geography	Schools select one of two available pathways: Pathway 1 Geography and World Regions The Ancient Period The Classical Period The Postclassical Period Pathway 2 Geography and World Regions The Early Modern Period The Modern Period The Contemporary Period	Each unit has: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 Learning Objectives and Key Concepts (Geography and World Regions Unit has 5) Essential Knowledge Statements (3 per Learning Objective) Framework includes disciplinary skills that apply across units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluating Evidence Incorporating Evidence Explaining Historical and Geographic Relationships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lesson ideas along with content summaries and organizers are provided for every learning objective (LO). Source exploration exercises with curated primary and secondary sources and questions for analysis are included for approximately 55% of the learning objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 formative Learning Checkpoints per unit 1 source-based Performance Task per unit, with Scoring Guidelines Summative Final Exam administered during a six-week window at the end of the course
Arts	Four distinct courses: Dance Music Theatre Visual Arts Three Modules available per course: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sources Structures Iteration 	5 Big Ideas and corresponding Enduring Understandings are identical across all four arts disciplines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observe and Interpret Practice and Experiment Research and Make Reflect and Evaluate Revise and Share Each course includes course-specific: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential Knowledge statements Learning Objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analysis and Interpretation Peer to Peer Dialogue Experimentation Reflective Writing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Model lessons are included for approximately 5-10 weeks of instruction per semester (15 weeks total), to be used flexibly and integrated into the existing coursework and performance schedule 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 formative assessments per Module 1 Performance Assessment and Scoring Guidelines for each Module