

## Fact or Fiction?

**Myth:** *Pre-AP and AP classes are a lot more work than regular stream courses.*

**Fact:** The goal of the AP program is not to create more work for students but to rather create more challenging projects and learning activities that stretch students' skills of critical thinking, analysis and creativity.

**Myth:** *You have to be super intelligent to take an AP class.*

**Fact:** The AP English program at St. Mary's is *not* designed to exclusively cater to an elitist group of intellectual students. On the contrary, this program is catered to students that have a passion for literature and enjoy pursuing this love through reading, writing, and classroom discussion.



“Only the curious will learn and only the resolute overcome the obstacles to learning. The quest quotient has always

excited me more than the intelligence quotient.” Eugene S. Wilson

## Admissions

A minimum average of 75% in English is generally recommended for this pathway of study in English but some highly able students do underachieve. Use the *Student Self-Assessment and Teacher Referral Form* on the school website to determine if the Pre-AP stream is right for you.

Students who are self-starters, curious, passionate about reading books, and looking to be challenged should consider the AP program at SMH.

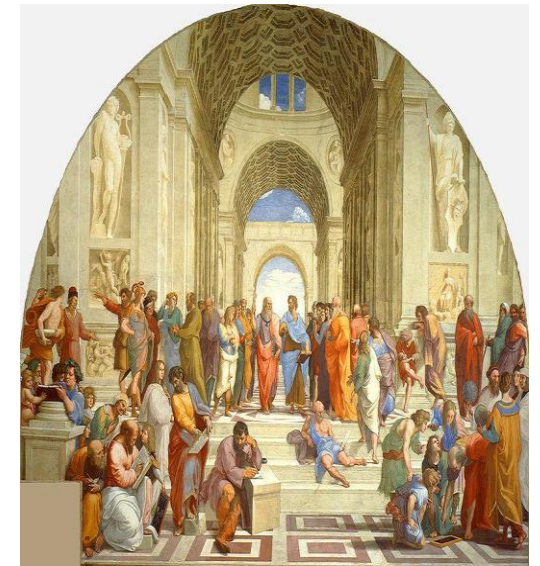


For more information, visit  
St. Mary's school website:

<https://stmary.wcdsb.ca/programs/enrichment-extension/advanced-placement>



# ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) ENGLISH



*“Anything that has real and lasting value is always a gift from within.”*

**Franz Kafka**

**Note:** St. Mary's HS offers Pre-AP courses in English, French, Math and Science

## What is Advanced Placement English?

The AP English program at St. Mary's is an enrichment program that caters to motivated students that have a passion for literature. Students will be given the opportunity to pursue their love of reading, develop analytical skills, and nurture their higher order thinking skills by debating, discussing and writing about great literature.



Perhaps the most important reason to join AP English is to meet other highly motivated students from across the city who are reflective, love reading books, and confident in their reading, oral communication and writing skills. The curriculum, combined with the advantage of working with like-minded peers, creates an environment that is both challenging and rewarding. The long-term goal of this program is to develop critical thinking skills that will give students an edge in whatever major they choose in their post-secondary studies.



## What is Pre-AP versus AP English?

### Grade 9-11 Pre-AP English

Pre-AP English is a vertical team approach to scaffolding skills and knowledge over a four year period to help ensure success on the AP exam. Grade 8 students can be recommended into the Pre-AP grade 9 English course (ENG 1DP) by their grade 8 teacher or through self-selection. Students can remain in the Pre-AP stream (ENG 2DP, ENG 3UP) in grades 10 and 11. In their grade 12 year, students proceed to the Literature and Composition English course (ENG4UP).

### Grade 12 AP English

ENG4UP is the AP Literature and Composition course at St. Mary's that has been audited by the AP College Board. It is a first year university equivalency English course that completes the program and prepares interested students for the AP exam.

## Why Should I Write the AP Exam in Grade 12?

University credits may be awarded to students that perform well on their AP exam. The examination is optional, and the results of the exam stay confidential until the student decides to release their marks.

*Most universities in Ontario recognize and reward successful completion of the AP examination*

Aside from university credits that can be earned, AP students will receive a wealth of experience and skill that will benefit them all of their lives. Students will learn to think critically and analytically, hone their communication skills, and appreciate how literary works illuminate and explain their own life journey.

## What Does Research Say About AP?

A 2013 study found that grade twelve students who took one or more AP exams, regardless of what score was earned, were more likely than their non-AP peers to successfully graduate from university.