Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate General Information, 2011-12

Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate Programs

Introduction

The Advanced Placement (AP) Program and the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme are advanced academic programs that make rigorous, college-level academic content

In 2007, the College Board began requiring high schools to submit AP course audit materials to request authorization to assign the "AP" designation to advanced classes. AP course audit materials

questions (College Board, 2012a). The only exception to this format is AP Studio Art, which has a portfolio assessment, rather than an examination. In addition to the free-response and multiple-choice sections, the language examinations include a speaking component, and the AP Music Theory examination includes a sight-singing task. Examinations vary in length, and scores range from 1 to 5 (Table 1). AP examinations are administered each year in May.

		IB examinations			
AP examinations		Subject examination		Theory of knowledge examination and extended essay examinations	
Score	Description	Score	Description	Score	Description

level, race/ethnicity, economic status, gender, and advanced course completion, as well as other relevant district, campus, and student information, are obtained from the TEA Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS). College Board data on grade level, race/ethnicity, and gender for AP

AP and IB courses can be one or more semesters in length. For a course that extends over more than one semester, completion of the course is defined as successful completion of all semesters of the course. For example, a student is counted as having completed AP United States History, a two-semester course, only after completing both the first and second semesters of the course. In addition, successful completion of a course requires a student to meet "... the standard requirements of the course, including demonstrated proficiency in the subject matter ..." (Title 19 of the Texas Administrative Code §74.26, 2012).

When comparing performance measures within a student group over time, the reliability of such comparisons is dependent on the size of the group. The smaller the student group, the less reliable the comparisons

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