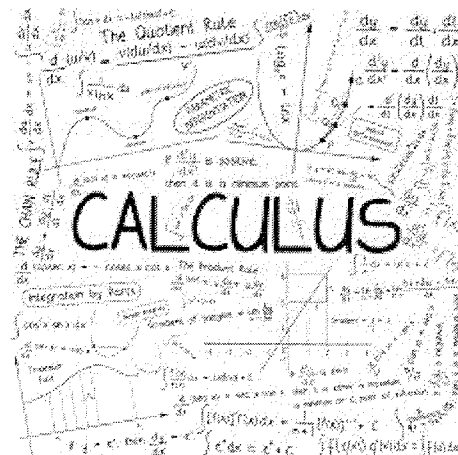


AP Calculus AB or AP Calculus BC

Which Course Should You Take?



CONSIDERATIONS:

AP courses are college-level courses.

All AP courses require students to have a very strong mathematics background and strong work ethic.

(1) What math course will I take in college?

In college, most students are required to take at least one mathematics course. Many college STEM majors require a calculus course. Calculus is a progression of college classes, commonly referred to as Calculus I, II, III and even IV at some schools.

(2) What credit or placement will I get for my AP math class?

Each college/university has a policy about credit and/or placement awarded for specific AP exams. AP Calculus has been around longer, so more schools give credit and/or placement for it than for AP Statistics. At most schools that give credit, earning a "passing" score on the AP Calculus exams results in one semester of college credit. The key might be which math course you'll need in your major. The link below will give more information on credit/placement.

<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/creditandplacement>

(3) What college major do I plan to pursue?

If you plan to pursue a degree in mathematics, computer programming, physics, or chemistry, you will be expected to take calculus in college. Business majors will probably need to take both a calculus and statistics course. You want to choose a course that sets you up well for your college math requirements.

(4) What are the similarities and differences between AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC?

AP Calculus AB/BC

Should be taken by students pursuing a job related to:

Mathematics

Science

Engineering

Computer programming

Economics/business.

Graphical, numerical, and algebraic study of functions

Builds on precalculus concepts

Computational proficiency

Emphasizes techniques, applications

TI-83/84/89/Nspire vital

AB

Equivalent of Calc I.

Covers 7 units of curriculum

Could translate up to 4 college credits with qualifying AP exam score

Recommended: A or B in Precalculus Honors

BC

Equivalent of Calc I and II.

Covers 12 units of curriculum.

AP exam includes an AB sub-score.

Could translate up to 8 college credits with qualifying AP exam score

Recommended: High A in Precalculus Honors