

Virtual Virginia

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is Virtual Virginia?

A. Virtual Virginia provides access to online Advanced Placement, world language, and elective courses for students across the state and nation. The courses utilize text lessons, video segments, audio clips, whiteboard demonstrations, and online discussions. Students do not have to take class in “real” time and can be scheduled throughout the students’ school day.

Q. Who can enroll in Virtual Virginia courses?

A. Students in middle and high schools who meet the prerequisites may enroll through their school counselor. The deadline for registering students is the end of the first week of the semester for the local district.

Q. Is there a charge for Virtual Virginia classes?

A. Please visit www.virtualvirginia.org for the most current information. There is a withdrawal fee of \$75 for students withdrawing more than 21 calendar days after the course begins.

Q. What are the responsibilities of the school and school division?

A. Schools must provide a local mentor, study area, computers, access to the Internet, headphones/microphones, telephone, and fax (or scanner). Textbooks, lab materials, and required software are purchased by the local school.

Q. Who are the Virtual Virginia instructors?

A. All instructors in Virtual Virginia are Virginia licensed, highly qualified, and trained for online instruction.

Q. Does the mentor need to be a licensed teacher?

A. No, the mentor will proctor tests, handle communication between the student and instructor, assist with technology questions, and monitor student progress.

Q. When do classes begin and end?

A. Online courses will start sections at the same time as typical start dates for Virginia schools. A detailed calendar is posted on the Virtual Virginia Web site.

Q. Should students register as a group through the school or individually?

A. Initially, public and private school students should confer with their school counselor. The counselor will register the school and students through the online Web site registration. Only home schooled students are registered by their parents.

Q. Does Virtual Virginia have a grading scale?

A. No, Virtual Virginia provides a numeric average which represents the students’ performance in the course. The local school determines the letter grade based on the grading scale used for students in local AP courses.

Q. Are Virtual Virginia AP courses approved through the College Board audit process?

A. Yes, all Virtual Virginia AP courses are approved through the College Board. Information regarding Virtual Virginia courses is located in the College Board register.

For More Information:

Virtual Virginia
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Virtual Virginia 2008-2009

Virginia Department of Education
www.virtualvirginia.org

Advanced Placement and World Language Classes Online!

Public, private, and home school students from Virginia and the nation are taking engaging, rigorous AP, elective, and world language courses through Virtual Virginia. High school students can get a head start on college and save money on tuition costs by participating in this program. These classes are an exciting and challenging way for students to pursue academic courses not offered in their regular school. Opportunities are available for students to interact in a true global community as Virtual Virginia has enrollments from other states and countries. Classes feature a rich variety of media including streaming video, online field trips, simulations, and interactive learning tools. Scheduling conflicts are minimized as courses do not have to be taken in real time.

Middle school students can also participate in the world language course offerings. A new course, Survey of World Languages, is targeted at this age demographic to begin assisting students in their exploration of world language. High school credit world language courses are open to students in grades 7-12.

All courses are taught by skilled teachers fully certified in the subject area and trained for teaching in the online environment. Instructors are readily available via toll-free phones and e-mail. Local mentors are also available to help students by proctoring tests, answering questions, and facilitating communication between the school and the virtual instructional staff. All online courses require regular interaction with the instructor and other students in the course.

More information about the program, including course descriptions, textbooks, pre-course AP assignments, resources, and required technical specifications, is available at www.virtualvirginia.org.



How to be a Successful Online Student

Successful online students are very similar to students who excel in the regular school environment. Strong work and study skills are important including the ability to stay on task, maintain a regular schedule of logging on and keeping up with readings and course assignments. Students should expect to work outside of school hours as AP courses are college-level and require advanced analytical and reasoning skills. Online is not easier than the traditional education process. In fact, many students say it requires much more time and commitment. Students who are self-motivated and self-disciplined will be able to utilize the freedom and flexibility of the online environment to achieve their learning goals.

Getting Started

The first step to becoming an Early College Scholar (ECS) or enrolling in Virtual Virginia is talking with your school counselor or gifted education coordinator. Don't delay! **Registration is guaranteed when enrolled by June 30, 2008. The online registration system opens March 15, 2008.** Space-available registration is accepted through the first week of school. Spring block courses accept enrollment on a space-available basis through the first week of spring semester. There is no deadline for registering for the ECS Program. The ECS agreement is located at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/senioryearplus/earlycollegescholars.shtml>. Information about Virginia college and university acceptance of AP scores is available at http://www.virginiamentor.org/ap_ib/ap.asp.

Your counselor can assist you in determining if you have the necessary course prerequisites and are ready to take an online course. Course prerequisites are located on the Virtual Virginia Web site under course information. AP courses have a pre-course assignment that should be completed prior to the start of class. Information is located under "Course Info" on the Virtual Virginia Web site.

Virtual Virginia Courses 2008-09

High School Online Courses (Full Year/1 credit)

Fine Arts

9151 AP Art History

Language Arts

1165 World Mythology
1171 Creative Writing
1195 AP English Lit & Composition
1196 AP English Lang & Composition

Mathematics

3162 Pre-Cal/Mathematical Analysis
3177 AP Calculus AB
3178 AP Calculus BC
3185 AP Computer Science AB
3192 AP Statistics

Science

4210 Earth Science I
4270 AP Environmental Science
4370 AP Biology
4410 Chemistry (Honors)
4470 AP Chemistry
4510 Physics (Honors)
4570 AP Physics B

Social Studies

2212 AP Human Geography
2319 AP U.S. History
2380 AP World History
2399 AP European History
2445 AP Gov't & Politics: US
2450 AP Gov't & Politics: Comparative
2902 AP Psychology

World Language

5170 AP French Language
5310 Latin I
5320 Latin II
5330 Latin III
5340 Latin IV
5380 AP Latin Lit: Catullus & Ovid
5540 Spanish IV
5570 AP Spanish Language
5700 Survey of World Languages & Cultures
5810 Chinese I
5820 Chinese II
5830 Chinese III

High School Online Courses (4x4 Block/1 credit)

Fine Arts

9151 AP Art History

Language Arts

1165 World Mythology
1171 Creative Writing
1195 AP English Lit & Composition
1196 AP English Lang & Composition

Mathematics

3162 Pre-Cal/Mathematical Analysis
3177 AP Calculus AB
3192 AP Statistics

Science

4270 AP Environmental Science
4370 AP Biology
4470 AP Chemistry
4570 AP Physics B

Social Studies

2212 AP Human Geography
2319 AP U.S. History
2380 AP World History
2399 AP European History
2445 AP Gov't and Politics: US
2450 AP Gov't and Politics: Comparative
2802 AP Microeconomics
2803 AP Macroeconomics
2902 AP Psychology

World Language

5380 AP Latin Lit: Catullus and Ovid
5570 AP Spanish Language

Online Course (Semester: 1/2 credit)

1515 SAT Prep (fee based)

Middle School Online Courses (Full Year/1 credit)

5310 Latin I
5320 Latin II
5700 Survey of World Languages & Cultures
5810 Chinese I
5820 Chinese II