

Report on AP/Honors Program at ASFG

2016-2017

Introduction

This is the 31th year that the American School Foundation of Guadalajara has offered Advanced Placement classes. The program prepares students for the rigor of university level study by offering college-level classes, taught by highly trained ASFG teachers. Students enrolled in these classes take the AP exam in May and receive credit from many universities with a passing score of three or higher.

Results

A. Participation

The AP program serves a significant portion of our students; in 2016-2017, 106 students took at least one AP exam, down from 119 students the year prior. This represents the involvement of 41.73% of all grade 10-12 students (254) in the AP program, down from 46.85% the year prior.

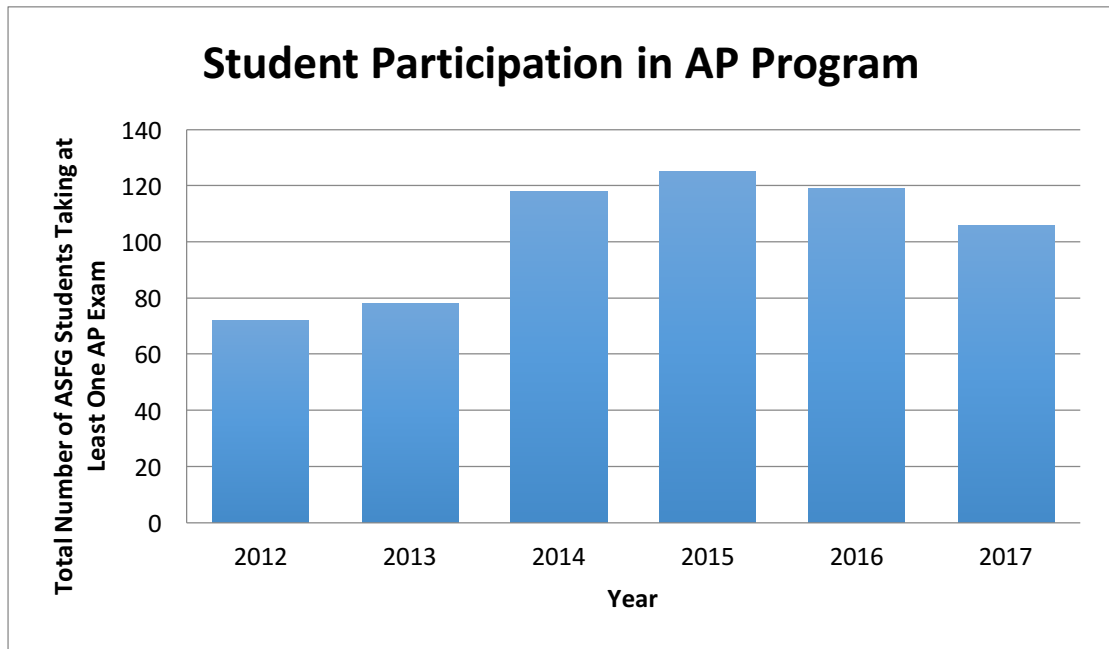
In total, students took 223 AP exams, 208 of which were taken after students completed one of the 19 corresponding AP courses offered at ASFG, or in a few cases, after receiving tutoring from an ASFG teacher. This number is down from 233 total exams taken last year, 221 of which were taken after students completed one of 15 corresponding AP courses. The average number of exams taken by each ASFG AP student was 2.10, up from 1.96 the year prior.

School Year	Total number of AP Exams	Number of exams for which students received lessons from ASFG teacher	Number of courses offered	Average number of exams per student
2013-2014	212	198	13	1.81
2014-2015	230	215	14	1.84
2015-2016	233	221	15	1.96
2016-2017	223	208	19	2.10

The courses offered in 2016-2017 were Studio Art 2D-design, Studio Art: Drawing, Studio Art 3D, Spanish Literature and Culture, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, US History, World History, Calculus AB, Biology, Psychology, Physics C Mechanics, Physics 1, French Language and Culture, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Chemistry, Seminar, and Research.

Student Participation in AP Program

School Year	Number of students taking at least one AP exam out of total number of students grades 10th-12th	Percentage
2013-2014	118 out of 251	47%
2014-2015	125 out of 253	49.4%
2015-2016	119 out of 254	46.85%
2016-2017	106 out of 254	41.73%



In 2017 there were 15 exams for which students did not receive instruction from an ASFG teacher. These exams were in the areas of English Language and Composition (1 exam), English Literature and Composition (1 exam), Psychology (2 exams), World History (1 exam), Spanish Language and Culture (8 exams), French (1 exam), and Computer Science (1 exam).

B. Pass Rates and Mean Scores

The following tables show the number of exams and percentages of exams passed with a score of 3, 4, and 5 or failed (score 1 or 2) for the last three years. These tables only consider students who took a course given by an ASFG teacher.

2014-2015 pass rate 71.61%

School Totals	5	4	3	2	1	Total Exams
Number of Exams	41	49	64	55	6	215
Percentage of total exams	19.06	22.79	29.76	25.59	2.8	100

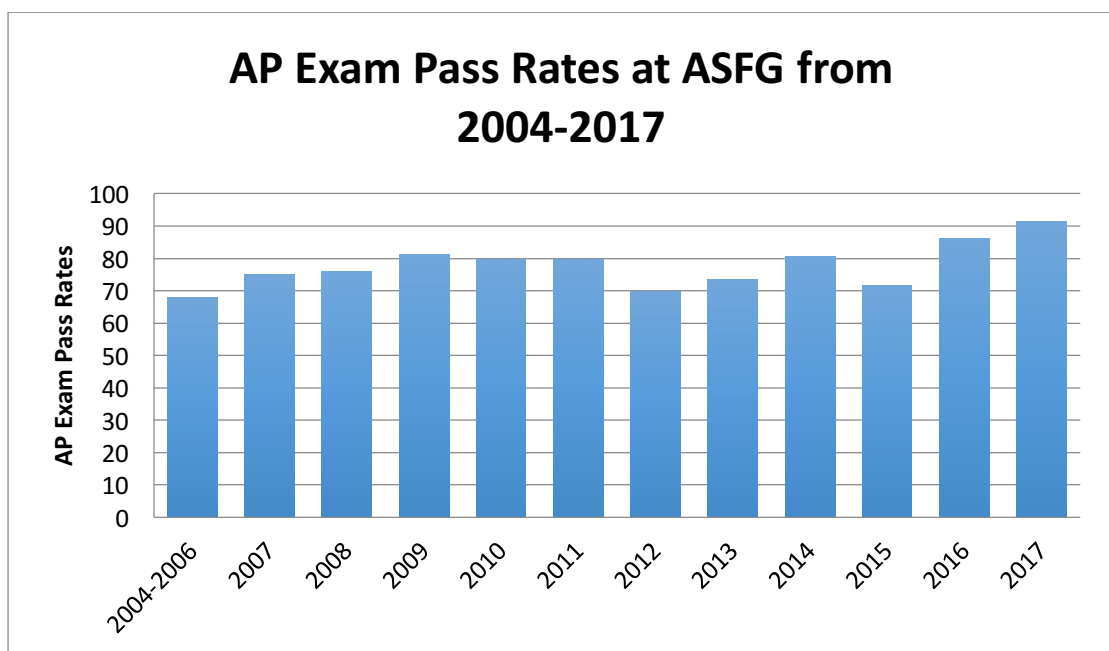
2015-2016 pass rate 86%

School Totals	5	4	3	2	1	Total Exams
Number of Exams	62	65	63	25	6	221
Percentage of total exams	28.1	29.4	28.5	11.3	2.7	100

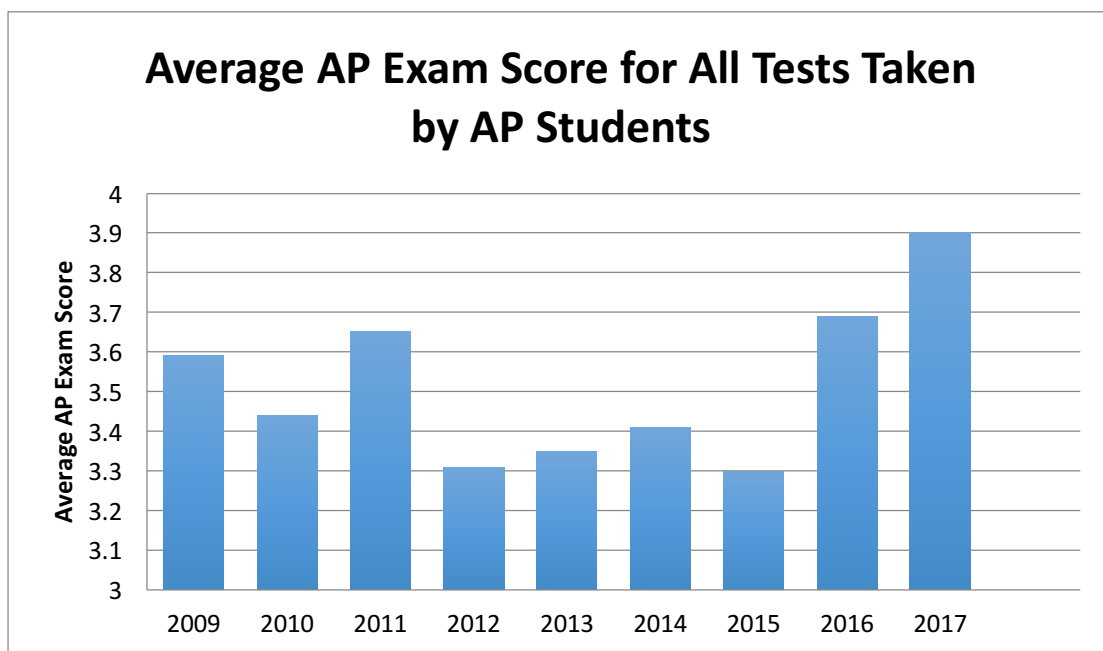
2016-2017 pass rate 91.35%

School Totals	5	4	3	2	1	Total Exams
Number of Exams	73	65	52	14	4	208
Percentage of total exams	35.10	31.25	25	6.73	1.92	100

Out of 208 exams administered from which students took classes from an ASFG teacher, the resulting pass rate was of 91.35% (190 exams passed out of 208 exams administered). This is an increase of 5.35% compared to last year's pass rate of 86%.



The average AP exam score for all tests taken by AP students for which they received instruction from an ASFG teacher went up from a 3.69 in 2016 to a 3.9 in 2017.



C. School Totals by Score and Course

The table below shows the total of AP exams taken by ASFG students and their scores by course. These students took the course with an ASFG teacher.

Course Name	5	4	3	2	1	Total exams passed	Passing rate per course
Research		3	7	3		13	76.92%
Seminar		5	9			14	100%
Studio Art 2D Design			4			4	100%
Studio Art 3D Design	1	1				2	100%
Studio Art Drawing	2	1	1			4	100%

Course Name	5	4	3	2	1	Total exams passed	Passing rate per course
English Language and Composition	2	2	4	1		8/9	88.88%
English Literature and Composition		5	2	2		7/9	77.77%
Macroeconomics	8	12	5	2		25/27	92.6%
Microeconomics	7	5	7		2	19/21	90.47%
Psychology	2	1	2		2	5/7	71.42%
US History	3	3				6/6	100%
World History	7	6	1	2		14/16	87.5%
Calculus AB	8	4				12/12	100%
Biology	1		3	1		4/5	80%
Chemistry	2	2	4			8/8	100%
Physics 1	1	9	2	3		12/15	80%
Physics C Mechanics	1	3				4/4	100%
French Language and Culture		1	1			2/2	100%
Spanish Literature and Culture	28	2				30/30	100%
Totals	73	65	52	14	4	190/208	91.35%

As can be observed from the table above, this year, there were ten courses that had a 100% passing rate: Seminar, Studio Art 2D, Studio Art 3D, Studio Art Drawing, US History, Calculus AB, Chemistry, Physics C Mechanics, French Language and Culture, and Spanish Literature and Culture.

Also, worthy of note, 35% of the exams got a 5, 31.25% got a 4, and 25% got a 3. Meaning that 91.35% of the exams taken by ASFG students passed with a score of 3 or higher. Compared to last year's 86%, the number of exams passed went up by 5.35%.

The following chart shows how we are doing compared to other schools in Mexico and all over the world. Compared to five years ago we have increased the number of students by 37.17%, number of exams by 47.71%, and increased the total of AP students with scores 3+ by 63.93%. This includes all of our ASFG students regardless if they took the course or not.

The percentage of AP students at ASFG with a score 3+ has always been above the percentage in Mexico and globally for the last five years.

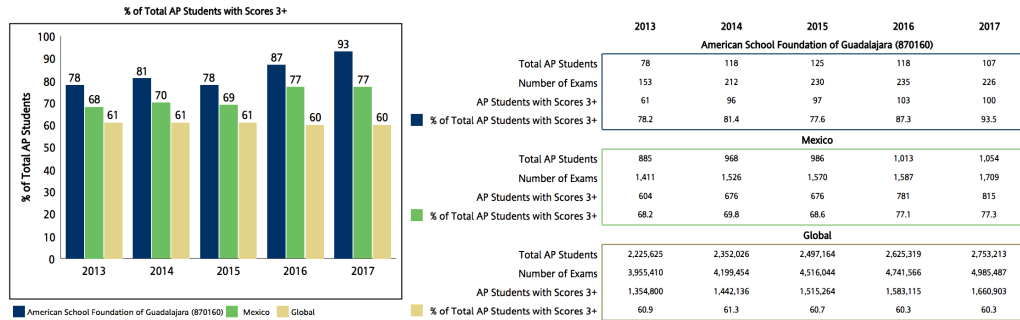
AP® Five-Year School Score Summary (2017)

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This report shows five years of data at the school, country and global levels. On the first page, a graph illustrates the year-over-year change in the percentage of AP students with scores of 3 or higher, next to a table that provides the overall total exams, total unique students and both the number and percentage of AP students with one or more scores of 3 or higher. On subsequent pages, the report provides subject-specific summary data by year: total exams, total exams by score and mean score.

✓ Data Updated Aug 1, 2017, Report Run Aug 2, 2017

American School Foundation of Guadalajara (870160)



D. AP Scholar Awards 2017

The AP Program offers several AP Scholar Awards to recognize high school students who have demonstrated college level achievement through AP courses and exams. This year there were a total of 45 scholars recognized with an average score of 3.98. Compared to last year, the number of scholars decreased from 54 to 45, but the average score increased from 3.78 to a 3.98.

1. AP Scholar: Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher in three or more AP exams.

Year	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Total	Score Average
2013	1	3	6	10	3.36
2014	0	7	5	12	3.44
2015	0	11	4	15	3.45
2016	0	7	11	18	3.28
2017	1	7	6	14	3.7

Although there was a decrease in the number of students receiving this recognition, the score average went up from a 3.28 to a 3.7, a significant increase of 12.8%.

2. AP Scholar with Honor: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and score of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

Year	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Total	Score Average
2013	0	4	1	5	3.80
2014	0	3	5	8	3.59
2015	0	2	4	6	3.97
2016	0	8	7	15	3.78
2017	0	6	1	7	3.77

The total number of students receiving the AP Scholar Award with Honors decreased from 15 to 7 compared to last year, but maintaining a 3.7 average.

3. AP Scholar with Distinction: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

Year	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Total	Score Average
2013	0	3	5	8	4.58
2014	0	6	6	12	4.08
2015	0	9	6	15	4.21
2016	0	5	16	21	4.04
2017	0	5	18	23	4.09

During the last five years there has been an increase in the total number of students receiving the AP Scholar with Distinction Award maintaining a score average greater than 4.

4. AP International Diploma: Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on five or more AP exams in three or more subject areas.

Year	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Total	Score Average
2015	0	2	4	6	4.4
2016	0	2	3	5	3.79
2017	0	2	3	5	3.93

As can be observed from the table, the number of students that have been granted this award for the last three years has been practically the same. The average score increased from a 3.79 to a 3.93, but it is still below 2015 average of 4.4.

5. AP Capstone Diploma: Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing.

Year	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Total	Score Average
2017	0	0	8	8	4.23

Since this is a new course offered by the College Board, the information given is only for the year 2017.

6. AP Seminar and Research Certificate: Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research.

Year	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors	Total	Score Average
2017	0	0	2	2	3.11

Since this is a new course offered by the College Board, the information given is only for the year 2017.

E. Magic Number

Exams passed to number of high school students grades 10-12

The magic number refers to the total number of AP exams passed each year as compared to a fixed, enrollment-adjusted potential of 200 students in grades 10th through 12th. This measure accounts for variations in high school enrollment. In addition, it is in accordance with the high school's philosophy of increasing participation while maintain a rigorous classroom environment. This is because it is possible to improve both pass rates and mean scores solely by increasing the selectivity of the application process.

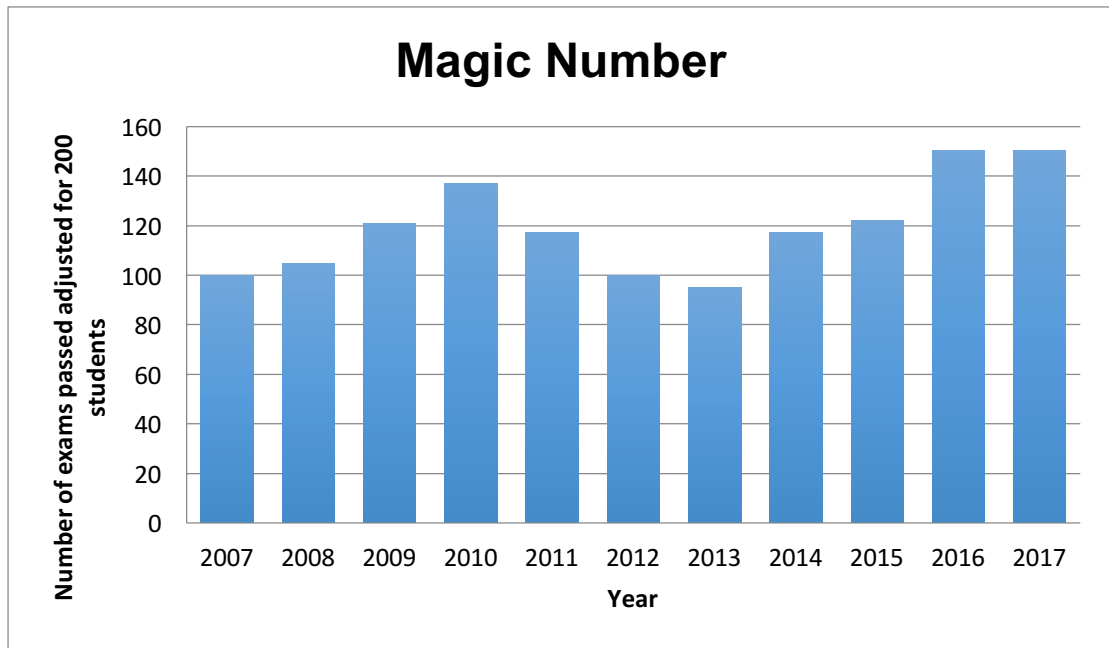
In 2017 the Magic Number was 150 exams passed per student body of 200, same as last year's magic number.

To reach the magic number of 150:

$$\frac{\text{Total \# of exams passed (instruction by ASFG teacher)}}{\text{Total number of high school students grades 10-12}} = \frac{x}{200}$$

$$\frac{190}{254} = \frac{x}{200}$$

$x = 150$ exams passed per a student body of 200



It can be observed from the table that the magic number did not change compared to last year's magic number. This being the highest magic number ever reached since 2007.

Exams passed to number of exams administered

Another interesting number that could be examined is the ratio between the number of AP exams passed to exams administered and compare it with a fixed of 200 exams administered.

$$\frac{\text{Total \# of AP exams passed (instruction by ASFG teacher)}}{\text{Total number of exams administered (instruction by ASFG teacher)}} = \frac{x}{200}$$

$$\frac{190}{208} = \frac{x}{200}$$

This will give a total of 183 AP exams passed out of a fixed number of 200 exams administered. Compared to last year's number of 172, there was an increase of 11 exams passed.

Highlights

A. Year 2016-2017

- Decrease of AP students from 119 in 2015-2016 to 106 in 2016-2017.
- The Magic Number did not change, maintaining the highest number of 150 exams passed out of a constant population of 200 students.
- Ten AP courses had 100% passing rates.
- 91.35% of the exams taken by ASFG students were passed with a score of 3 or higher (went up from last year's 86%).
- The average number of exams taken by each ASFG AP student was 2.10, up from 1.96 the year prior.
- The average AP exam score for all tests taken by AP students for which they received instruction from an ASFG teacher went up from a 3.69 in 2016 to a 3.9 in 2017.
- There were 45 scholars that were recognized by the AP program, receiving AP Scholar Awards. Their average score was 3.98, increasing compared to last year's 3.78.
- Teachers keep on encouraging students to challenge themselves by taking AP Courses. For example:
 - Two of the Calculus AB students had never taken an honors math course before and they got a passing score.
 - AP Seminar and AP Research are two new courses offered by the AP Program in which the students they been recognized with the AP Capstone Diploma (8 students) and the AP Seminar and Research Certificate (2 students).
- From the AP Five-Year School Score Summary, it can be observed that compared to five years ago we have increased the number of students by 37.17%, number of exams by 47.71%, and increased the total of AP students with scores 3+ by 63.93%.
- Relevant topics to reflect:
 - a. There is no time for teachers to give feedback to students

- b. AP workshops for all new teachers
- c. AP workshops on a rotating basis for veteran teachers
- d. Increase pass rates
- e. Congruency between AP scores and course grades.

B. Year 2017-2018 expected number of students and courses.

Course	Numbers of students	Teacher
AP Biology	8	R. Patrick
AP Calculus	9	L. Garcia
AP English Language	23	A. Surzyn
AP English Literature	7	S. Curtis
AP French	2	F. Lira
AP Economics	18	L. O'Hara
AP Physics II	7	R. Butler
AP Research	7	M. Hogan
AP Seminar	10	A. Surzyn
AP Studio Art	12	J. Peterson
AP US History	18	I. Torres
AP World History	15	C. Hopper
<i># of registered students for exams</i>	136	

Conclusion

Once again, it was an excellent year for AP exams since the Magic Number remained constant at 150 exams passed for which students received instruction from an ASFG teacher. Also, out of 208 exams that were administered, 91.35% of them had a score of 3 or higher. On the other hand, ten of the 19 courses offered had a 100% passing rate.

Nonetheless, there is still room for growth in two different ways: a) for courses that have already grown in the number of students, passing rates must increase also; and b) in courses that have a small number of students we need to invite more students to be challenged

but maintaining the same rigor and high standards of the courses. In other words, we should continue to focus on participation and performance.

The Academic Stress Management Policy is still in place, requiring any student that wishes to partake in more than two Honors or AP courses to engage in a review process in which teacher input is gathered by counselor, Serena Millstone, to provide a holistic reflection on each student's academic abilities, preferences, and overall well-being.

In conclusion, all AP teachers along with the students work hard to maintain the high expectations of an AP course, to keep up with the standards and academic goals required by the College Board and The American School Foundation of Guadalajara.

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October 10, 2017