

## **The AP Statistics Exam - Things to Know, Strategies for Review**

**We spend the rest of the course preparing for the AP Statistics Exam. Although not every student is taking the AP Exam, all students take the course final exam which is structured similar to the AP Exam: it covers the entire course and it includes both MCQ and FRQ parts.**

**So we just have everyone in the course prepare as if you are taking the AP exam, and that way you are prepared for the final exam. This preparation process is also a great review of the entire course content, which will help cement these concepts for you so you'll remember them better when you need to use this content during your college majors.**

**AP Statistics Exam: Thursday, May 7, 2026 (afternoon session)**

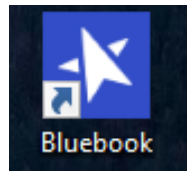
**College Board now uses a hybrid digital format for the AP Statistics exam.**

**You need to bring your school-issued laptop to the AP Exam, fully charged and ready to go (there will not be the ability to plug in your laptop during the exam).**

- For the Multiple-Choice (MCQ) portions of the test, the AP Exam will display the questions on your laptop and you'll record your answers on your laptop as well.**
- For the Free-Response (FRQ) portions of the test, the AP Exam will display the questions on your laptop but you'll write your answers in a test booklet with space for each part of each question.**

**Try out the BlueBook example test!**

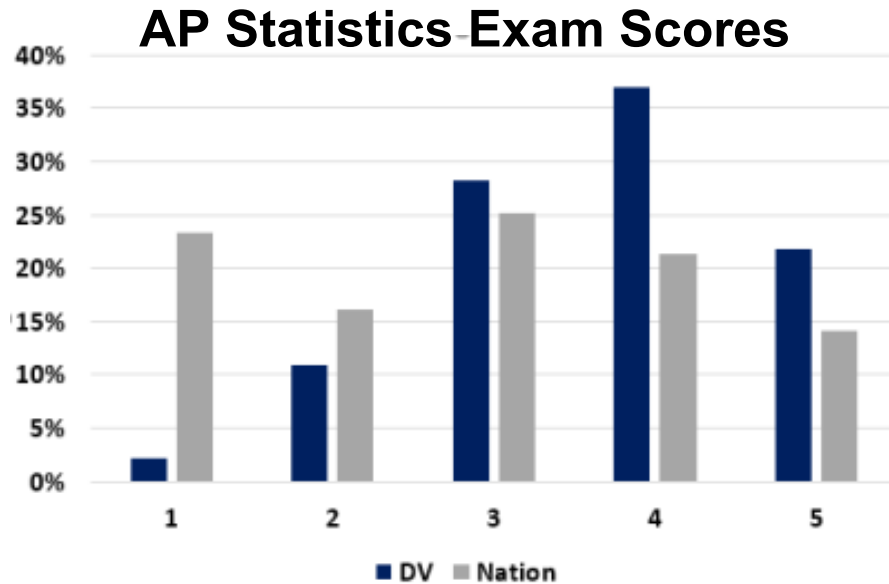
- You must take the AP Exam on your own school-issued laptop.
- If there is any reason why your laptop will not be able to function without being plugged in for the entire testing period (3.5-4 hours), please bring your laptop to the library to discuss a plan with them. Do this as soon as possible - do not wait until the week before the AP Exam.
- Highly recommend that in the week or two prior to the AP Exam, you bring your laptop to school, log in while inside the school network, and click 'restart' (not just shutdown). This will install updates. You should do this multiple times during the week prior to your first AP Exam to make sure your laptop does not need to install updates the morning of the AP Exam.
- Make sure the "BlueBook" testing application is already installed on your laptop:



(Tech support in the library can help you get this installed if not already on your laptop.)

## How difficult is the AP Statistics Exam?

It is definitely challenging, but students who prepare well do well.



Most colleges give no credit for 1 or 2

Most colleges give credit for 3,4,5

Your personal success will depend upon...

- How much time you spend outside of the classroom preparing (in addition to what we do during class).
- How well you can stay focused towards the end of the year in the midst of lots of things going on (other classes, home commitments, prom, senioritis, etc.)

## When is the AP Statistics Exam this year, what is the format?

Thursday, May 7, 2026 - afternoon session

### AP Statistics Exam Format:

1.5 hours: 40 multiple choice questions (worth 50% of the exam grade).

This means you have an average of 2.25 minutes per MCQ.

1.5 hours: 6 free-response choice questions (worth 50% of the exam grade)

- Part A: Questions 1-5 are standard, multiple-part FRQs
- Part B: Question 6 is the 'investigative task' - a longer and more involved question which puts concepts together in unusual ways. AP has stated you should spend around 25 minutes on this one question which leaves about 13 minutes each for the other 5 FRQs.

A calculator is required for all parts of the exam.  
The exam includes some formulas and tables.

## General test taking strategies

### MCQs:

- No penalty for guessing - so answer every question.
- Try to eliminate some choices and focus on the differences between the remaining choices.
- Might be able to use answers to work backwards or use trial and error.

### FRQs: Although Question 6 is marked 'Part B' you can work all 6 FRQs in any order...

- Work Question #1 first - this is usually the easiest (data analysis) build your confidence :)
- Work Question #6 next - worth the most points, don't want to leave it blank.
- Work Questions #2,3,4,5 - look at it, if you know what to do to start, start right away. If you are uncertain, skip and move on to the next problem - then come back and work the ones you skipped. **You don't want to burn up a lot of time on a problem you might get wrong anyway and then not get to a problem you could have answered.**

## Plan for Review...

- **MCQ Review**: We'll start by giving you the actual MCQs for multiple years of previous AP Exams. Each year has 40 MCQs...we will print/copy 2 years worth, and post an additional 3 years for more practice as desired. This is a great way to quickly review a lot of course concepts. We won't collect any of this work, but will have a non-curved MCQ quiz next Tuesday which can cover anything in the course to give you an idea of where you are on MCQ-type knowledge.
- **FRQ Q6 Review**: We will go over two examples of Q6 questions and work them in class so we can see how Q6 is different from the other FRQs, then we will give a packet of additional Q6 problems to students signed up for the AP Exam.
- **FRQ Review for Units 1-4**: To review last semester's unit FRQs, we will spend 2 days on each unit, first going over the main things to know from the AP Statistics Review Study Guide, then working in randomly assigned groups on FRQs from that unit from a previous AP Exam. These will be done in class, collected and checked for completion, then returned and we will go over the scoring rubric in detail the next day. We will also give you links to many more good, previous year AP Exam questions for each unit so you can do additional review on your own at home.
- **FRQ for Units 5-7 Review**: For this semester's units on inferential statistics, we won't do as much review in class because this is more recent, but will provide links good FRQs so you can review on your own for these units.

## Things to do now to prep for the AP Statistics Exam...

All AP Review / Final Exam review materials will only be posted in Canvas due to copyright restrictions. There is a module in Canvas called 'AP and Course Final Exam Review Materials'.

- AP Statistics Study Guide: Look through this list of topics overview to re-acquaint yourself with all of the main topics of the course.
- 2007/2002 MCQs: Work your way steadily through all of the MCQs in the 2007 and 2002 MCQ packets, and check your answers (posted).
- Ask questions about things when you encounter things you can't figure out: During class or before/after school in tutoring.

