

AP Networking: Course at a Glance



Course Overview

AP[®] Networking introduces students to the field and aligns closely with standard first-year collegiate networking courses. Students develop problem-solving and communication skills by configuring, securing, and troubleshooting networks of increasing scale. Through applied activities and real-world scenarios, students are encouraged to understand, design, and manage networks that enable functionalities such as streaming and communication, workplace collaboration, and resilient public infrastructure.



What Students Can Earn

College Credit and Advanced Placement: A qualifying AP Exam score can earn college credit, advanced placement, or both at participating colleges and universities.

AP Networking Credential: An employer-endorsed credential earned with a qualifying score on the AP Networking Exam.



Core Skill Themes (Spiral Throughout All Units)

Connect and Configure: Set up devices, networks, and connections so they work the way they're supposed to

Secure: Apply security controls appropriate to the size and purpose of a network

Troubleshoot: Diagnose and resolve connectivity, performance, and configuration problems

Collaborate: Work with others to design, document, and manage shared network systems



Course Units

Unit 1: Managing My Connections

Connecting, configuring, and troubleshooting personal devices

Unit 2: Managing My Shared Connections

Building and managing small shared networks

Unit 3: Managing Many Connections

Designing, routing, and securing larger networks

Unit 4: Managing Our Global Connections

Internet infrastructure and global connectivity



Ideal Student Profile

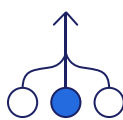
- No prior coding or computer science experience is required; designed for broad access
- Students curious about how devices, networks, and the internet work
- Students interested in careers in IT, networking, infrastructure, or telecommunications
- Students seeking the benefits of AP, including boosts to their high school GPA
- Career and technical education (CTE) students seeking college credit within their program of study
- Students who like troubleshooting, systems, and applied configuration work



Key Partnerships and Standards Alignment

Industry Partners: Developed in partnership with college faculty and industry leaders; industry advisors include IBM and Amazon Web Services

Standards Alignment: Aligns with the NICE Workforce Framework



Career Pathways

- Computer Systems Analyst
- Computer Network Support Specialist
- Network and Computer Systems Administrator
- Computer and Information Systems Manager
- Computer Systems Engineer or Architect
- Information Security Engineer
- Information Security Analyst
- Computer User Support Specialist

Many of these roles typically require education beyond high school.



Invite students to visit
cb.org/explore-AP
to tell us they're interested.