



Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is Virtual Virginia?

A. Virtual Virginia, a program of the Virginia Department of Education, is the Commonwealth's online program; it provides Advanced Placement, world language, elective, and core courses to students across the state and nation. The courses utilize rich media, text, video segments, animation, audio clips, whiteboard demonstrations, and online discussions. Students do not have to take any of the classes in real time, so the courses may be scheduled at any point throughout the students' school day.

Q. Who can enroll in Virtual Virginia?

A. Students in middle and high school who meet the prerequisites may enroll through their school counselor. The deadline for registering is the end of the first week of the courses' start date for the local division. Courses in world language, earth science, and world history are available for middle school students. Middle school students may not take other high school courses without approval of the Virtual Virginia Counseling Supervisor. Home and private school students should visit www.virtualvirginia.org for more information.

Q. Is there is a charge for Virtual Virginia classes?

A. Please visit www.virtualvirginia.org for the most current information regarding course fees. Some students may qualify for free tuition. A \$75 withdrawal fee is charged for all withdrawals that occur after the 21 calendar-day grace period.

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

A. Schools must provide a local mentor, study area, computers with the required hardware, software, high-speed access to the Internet, headphones/microphones, telephone, and scanner. Textbooks, lab materials, and required software are also purchased by the local school.

Q. Who are the Virtual Virginia instructors?

A. All Virtual Virginia instructors are licensed by Virginia, highly qualified, and trained for online instruction. Full-time instructors are online with students 40 hours per week. Adjunct instructors maintain posted office hours.

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

A. No. Mentors proctor tests, handle communication between the student and instructor, assist with technology questions, and monitor student progress. To access the mentor resources, please visit the following: www.virtualvirginia.org/educators/mentors.shtml.

Q. Where do I find information about textbooks, materials, and precourse assignments?

A. Please visit www.virtualvirginia.org for the most current information.

Q. When do classes begin and end?

A. Online courses begin in cohorts at the same time as typical start dates in Virginia schools. A detailed calendar is posted at www.virtualvirginia.org.

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

A. Public and private school students should confer with their local school counselors. Each counselor can register the school, agree to the partnership, and enroll the students through the online registration system. **Only homeschooled students may be registered by their parents.**

Q. Does Virtual Virginia have a grading scale?

A. No. Virtual Virginia provides a numeric average that represents the students' performance in a course. The local school determines the letter grade that will appear on the transcript.

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

A. Yes. All AP® courses are approved through the audit process. Information regarding Virtual Virginia courses is located on the AP® course ledger.

For More Information:

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www.virtualvirginia.org



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VIRTUAL VIRGINIA

2011 - 2012

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION
www.virtualvirginia.org



Closing the Gap and Meeting Students' Needs!

Public, private, and homeschooled students from Virginia and the nation are taking engaging, rigorous high school courses through Virtual Virginia. These classes are an exciting and challenging way for students to pursue academic courses that are unavailable at their local school. The classes feature a rich variety of media, including streaming video, online field trips, simulations, and interactive learning tools. Since classes do not have to be taken in real time, scheduling conflicts are minimized.

Middle school students can also participate in the world language course offerings. Eighth-grade students may take Earth Science and World History and Geography I in addition to the world language offerings. Survey of World Language & Culture is a high school credit class developed with middle school students in mind. High school-credit world language courses are open to students in grades 7-12.

All courses are taught by skilled, highly qualified teachers who are fully certified in the subject area and who are experienced in teaching in an online environment. Instructors are available via toll-free phone numbers, e-mail, discussion forums, and our virtual classroom tools. Local mentors also can assist 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, the courses, policies, and technical specifications are available at www.virtualvirginia.org. You can find Virtual Virginia on Facebook at <http://tinyurl.com/m66wgl> or on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/virtualva>.



How to Be a Successful Online Student

Successful online students are very similar to students who excel in traditional school environments. A strong work ethic and well-

developed study skills are as important as the abilities to stay on task, maintain a regular log-on schedule, and keep up with the course assignments. Students should expect to work outside school hours in all courses. AP® students should expect to dedicate anywhere from 5 to 10 hours per week outside regular class time to the completion of course assignments. Note that AP® courses are college level and demand advanced analytical and reasoning skills.

Online courses are not easier than courses offered in traditional classroom settings. In fact, many students feel that online courses require more time and commitment. On the other hand, they offer flexibility and high student/teacher interaction through the use of various technologies.



Getting Started

Don't delay! Registration for the 2011-2012 school year opens April 15, 2011. ALL enrollments are on a first-come, first-serve basis—pending available student openings in each course. Your school counselor can help determine if you have the necessary course prerequisites and are ready to take an online course. Course prerequisites are located under the "Courses" tab at www.virtualvirginia.org. Click on the individual course for a description. All AP courses have precourse assignments that should be completed prior to beginning the course. **All course offerings are subject to minimum enrollment numbers.**



Are You Eligible to Be an Early College Scholar?

The first step in becoming an Early College Scholar is to talk with your school counselor. Are you a public school student who is pursuing an advanced diploma while maintaining a B average and planning to take the equivalent of 15 college credits while in high school? If so, sign up today to be an Early College Scholar! The ECS agreement is located at www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/senioryearplus/earlycollegescholars.shtml. There is no tuition charged for AP® courses for ECS students.



Virtual Virginia Online Courses • 2011-2012

High School Courses

Fine Arts

9151 AP® Art History

Language Arts

1165 World Mythology
1171 Creative Writing
1195 AP® English Literature & Composition
1196 AP® English Language & Composition

Mathematics

3162 Pre-Calculus/Math Analysis
3177 AP® Calculus AB
3178 AP® Calculus BC
3185 AP® Computer Science A
3192 AP® Statistics

Science

4210 Earth Science
4260 Earth Science II-Astronomy**
4270 AP® Environmental Science
4370 AP® Biology
4410 Chemistry (Honors)
4470 AP® Chemistry
4510 Physics (Honors)
4570 AP® Physics

Social Studies

2219 World History & Geography, Part I
2903 Psychology**
6120 Economics & Personal Finance
2212 AP® Human Geography
2319 AP® U.S. History
2380 AP® World History
2399 AP® European History
2445 AP® Government & Politics: US
2450 AP® Government & Politics: Comparative
2902 AP® Psychology
2802 AP® Microeconomics**
2803 AP® Macroeconomics**

World Language

5170 AP® French Language
5370 AP® Latin: Vergil
5570 AP® Spanish Language
1111 AP® Chinese Language & Culture

World Language

(Available yearlong only)

5010 Arabic I
5020 Arabic II
5110 French I
5120 French II
5310 Latin I
5320 Latin II
5330 Latin III
5340 Latin IV
5510 Spanish I
5520 Spanish II
5540 Spanish IV
5700 Survey of World Language & Culture
5810 Chinese I
5820 Chinese II
5830 Chinese III
5840 Chinese IV

****These semester courses are awarded .5 credit only.**

Middle School Courses

(Available yearlong only)

5010 Arabic I
5020 Arabic II
5110 French I
5120 French II
5310 Latin I
5320 Latin II
5510 Spanish I
5520 Spanish II
5700 Survey of World Language & Culture
5810 Chinese I
5820 Chinese II
2219 World History & Geography, Part I*
4210 Earth Science *

* Eighth grade and higher only