



Bristol Public Schools
Office of Teaching & Learning

Department	Mathematics
Department Philosophy	<p>Students learn by doing math, solving problems in mathematical and real-world contexts, and constructing arguments using precise language. The Bristol mathematics curricula embeds this learn-by-doing philosophy by focusing on high expectations for all students and providing students with opportunities that build conceptual understanding, computational and procedural fluency, and problem solving through the use of a variety of strategies, tools, and technologies. The mathematics curriculum is responsive to the individual needs of students, while providing a structure tied to the Common Core State Standards in Connecticut.</p> <p>The learn-by-doing philosophy develops mathematically literate and productive students who can effectively and efficiently apply mathematics in their lives to make informed decisions about the world around them by doing math. To be mathematically literate, one must understand major mathematics concepts, possess computational facility, and have the ability to apply these understandings to situations in daily life. Making connections between mathematics and other disciplines is key to the appropriate application of mathematics skills and concepts to solve problems. The ability to read, discuss, and write within the discipline of mathematics is an integral skill that supports mathematical understanding, reasoning and communication. The opportunity to think critically and creatively to solve problems is important to deepen mathematical knowledge and foster innovation. A rich hands-on mathematical experience is essential to provide the foundational knowledge and skills that prepare students to be mathematically literate, productive citizens.</p>
Course	AP Calculus
Course Description for Program of Studies	<p>AP Calculus AB and AP Calculus BC focus on students' understanding of calculus concepts and provide experience with methods and applications. Through the use of big ideas of calculus (e.g., modeling change, approximation and limits, and analysis of functions), each course becomes a cohesive whole, rather than a collection of unrelated topics. Both courses require students to use definitions and theorems to build arguments and justify conclusions. The courses feature a multi representational approach to calculus, with concepts, results, and problems expressed graphically, numerically, analytically, and verbally. Exploring connections among these representations builds understanding of how calculus applies limits to develop important ideas, definitions, formulas, and theorems. A sustained emphasis on clear communication of methods, reasoning, justifications, and conclusions is essential. Teachers and students should regularly use technology to reinforce relationships among functions, to confirm written work, to implement experimentation, and to assist in interpreting results.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AP Calculus AB is designed to be the equivalent of a first semester college calculus course devoted to topics in differential and integral calculus.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP Calculus BC is designed to be the equivalent to both first and second semester college calculus courses. AP Calculus BC applies the content and skills learned in AP Calculus AB to parametrically defined curves, polar curves, and vector-valued functions; develops additional integration techniques and applications; and introduces the topics of sequences and series.
Grade Level	12
Pre-requisites	Grade of “83” or better in Pre-Calc. Acc. or Dept. recommendation
Credit (if applicable)	1.0

[College Board AP Calculus Course Framework](#)