

## **ABSTRACT**

**DISSERTATION:** The Status of the Advanced Placement Program in Indiana as of 2006

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In 2006 the College Board celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Advanced Placement (AP) program. The AP program, which began as a means of transitioning selected high school students to colleges, had expanded to include thousands of students sitting for thousands of exams. During the first fifty years as the program expanded, the College Board expanded the number of course offerings. With this expansion came the question as to the effectiveness of AP. As criticism of the College Board continued to grow, by 2006 the College Board began reform by auditing its own courses, seeking funding for states to expand experimental programs, and encouraging universities to no longer accept a score of 3 on an exam. The College Board sought overall clarity regarding the focus of the AP program once considered an elite standard in America high schools. While there is cause to wonder, there is also encouragement.