

AP Seminar (Year 1 of AP Capstone)

½ unit credit per semester / AP academic elective (counts toward HOPE GPA)

** AP Seminar students must also enroll in AP Language & Composition

AP Seminar is a foundational, introductory research course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments. Students must be enrolled in AP Language and Composition concurrently with AP Seminar in order to be eligible to take the course, and acceptance into the program is based on an application process, writing samples, and teacher recommendations.

*adapted from the College Board course overview

AP Research (Year 2 of AP Capstone)

For seniors who have completed AP Seminar with a B and passed the AP Seminar exam

½ unit credit per semester / AP academic elective (counts toward HOPE GPA)

AP Research allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest. Through this exploration, students design, plan, and conduct a year-long research-based investigation to address a research question. In the AP Research course, students further their skills acquired in the AP Seminar course by understanding research methodology; employing ethical research practices; and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information as they address a research question. Students explore their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of the development of their scholarly work in a portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of approximately 4000–5000 words (accompanied by a performance or exhibition of product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense. Students must have successfully completed the AP Seminar course.

*taken from the College Board course overview

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