

AP CAPSTONE

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AP Capstone is a College Board program that equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and communication skills that are increasingly valued by colleges. It cultivates curious, independent, and collaborative scholars and prepares them to make logical, evidence-based decisions (collegeboard.org, 2017).

AP Capstone was developed in response to feedback from higher education. The two AP Capstone courses, with their associated performance tasks, assessments, and application of research methodology, require students to:

- Analyze topics through multiple lenses to construct meaning or gain understanding.
- Plan and conduct a study or investigation.
- Propose solutions to real-world problems.
- Plan and produce communication in various forms.
- Collaborate to solve a problem
- Integrate, synthesize, and make cross-curricular connections

AP Capstone is comprised of two AP courses — **AP Seminar** and **AP Research**— and is designed to complement and enhance the discipline-specific study in other AP courses. Participating schools can use the AP Capstone program to provide unique research opportunities for current AP students, or to expand access to AP by encouraging students to master the argument-based writing skills that the AP Capstone program develops.

AP Seminar is a year-long course that has students investigate real-world issues from multiple perspectives. Students learn to synthesize information from different sources, develop their own lines of reasoning in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team.

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 4000-5000 words (accompanied by a performance or exhibition of product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

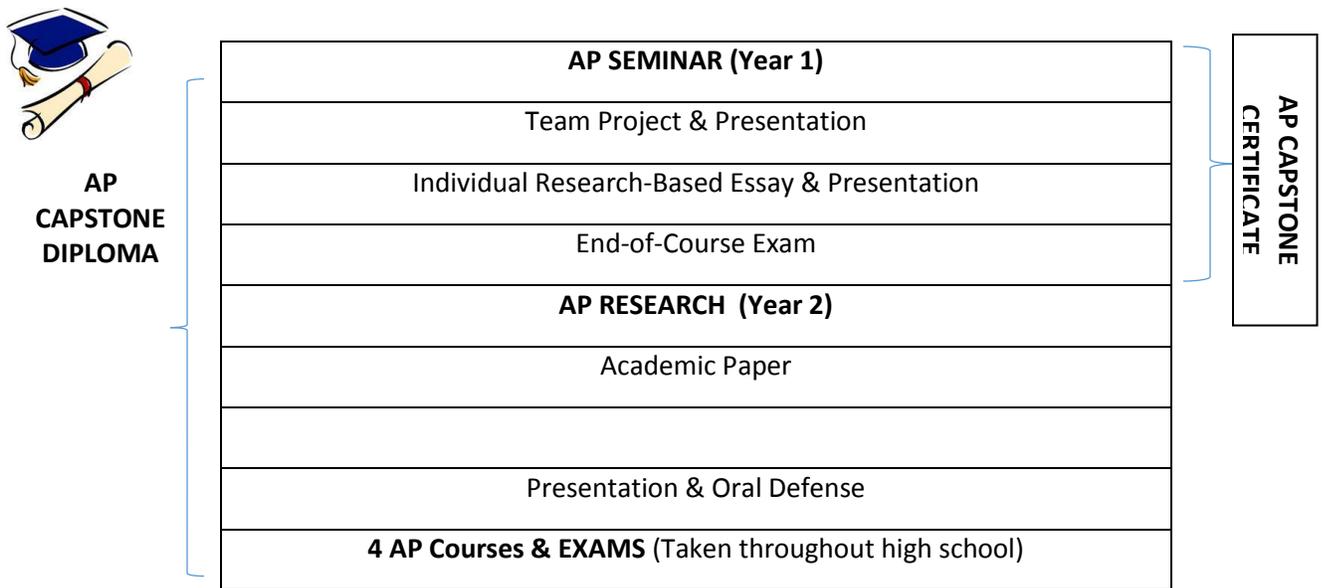
How AP Capstone Works

The College Board’s AP Capstone is an innovative college-level program based on two new courses—AP Seminar and AP Research—that complement and enhance discipline-specific AP courses.

The program gives students a chance to practice core academic skills they need to complete college. The ability to think independently, write effectively, research, collaborate, and learn across disciplines is essential for success in college, career, and beyond.

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing receive the AP Capstone Diploma. This signifies their outstanding academic achievement and attainment of college-level academic and research skills. Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate.

AP Capstone has the potential to differentiate and transform high schools and their students by elevating the learning environment through a challenging, college-level program with high standards of assessment.



A.P. SEMINAR**Course No. 0013****Grade Offered: 10****Credit 1.0****Examination: AP Examination + additional paper and video submissions****Recommended Prerequisite: English 9H and a 90 or above in English 8 and 9**

The A.P. Seminar course emphasizes the development of skills in investigating real-world issues from multiple perspectives, gathering and analyzing information from various sources in order to develop credible and valid evidenced-based arguments. A.P. Seminar is for independent students capable of doing college level work who are willing to devote the time and energy necessary to succeed in this rigorous course. Students will demonstrate their achievement in college level work by taking the National Advanced Placement Examination Seminar. The long-term goals of the course are to enable students collect and analyze information with accuracy and precision, develop arguments based on facts and effectively communicate them skills essential for success during and after college.

A.P. RESEARCH**Course No. 0017****Grades Offered: 11-12****Credit 1.0****Examination: Academic paper, oral presentation and defense****Required Prerequisite: AP Seminar**

The AP Research course 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. A.P. Research is for independent students capable of doing college level work who are willing to devote the time and energy necessary to succeed in this rigorous course. Students will demonstrate their achievement in college level work by writing an academic paper of 4000-5000 words (accompanied by a performance or exhibition of product where applicable) and a giving a presentation with an oral defense.