AP Capstone Program

Introducing - AP Capstone

AP Capstone™ **is an innovative program** that allows students to engage in rigorous university-level study of **the critical skills** necessary for success in university. The Program of study includes a 2-course sequence:

AP Seminar and **AP Research**

(both offered outside the timetable as morning blocks)

Emphasizes Critical Skills

- Considering multiple perspectives
- Careful evaluation of information
- Writing evidence-based arguments

Complements the in-depth subject-matter study in AP

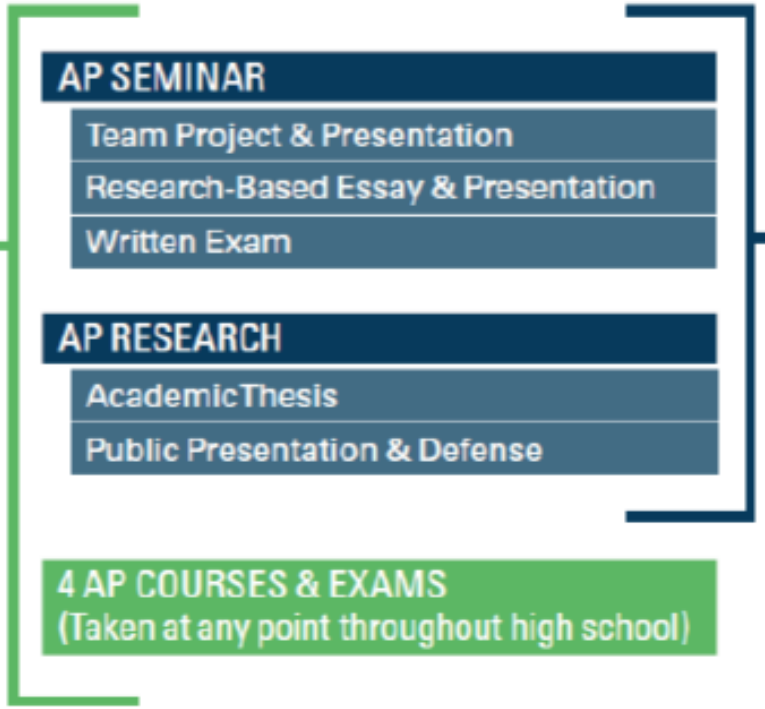
- Identifying and solving problems
- Oral communication and defending an argument
- Collaboration and teamwork

AP Capstone Program Model

A two-course sequence that provides students with the critical thinking and research skills needed to succeed in university and stand-out in the admission process

AP Capstone Diploma™

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher on the AP Seminar and AP Research Exams and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the **AP Capstone Diploma™**.



AP Research & Seminar Certificate™

AP Seminar: What to expect:

At first year university level:

*examine issues from different perspectives:
*research credibly
*create strong oral presentations
*produce research papers

During AP Seminar, you will:

*work in groups to identify a problem of interest and research your own unique perspective to find a solution, then present as a group.
*Inspired by stimulus material, research and present an argument of your own and defend it.

AP Research: What to expect:

At first year university level: you will learn how to:

*design and conduct original research
*design a method that matches academic disciplines

During AP Research, you will:

*complete a year-long research project of your choice
* build on AP Seminar skills
* research the current conversation in your chosen field
* identify a gap in the research
* choose a method to collect data
* analyze results to add to the body of knowledge.

AP Seminar – Grade 11 Year

Students learn how to:

- Investigate real-world topics from multiple perspectives
- Carefully analyze information, write evidence-based arguments and effectively communicate them
- Work independently and with a team to research a topic, develop a written report and deliver a presentation

Example Topics
Democracy
Education
Honesty
Freedom
Perception
Technology
Sustainability

Exam cost ~$195

Teachers & Students select and study 2-4 topics.

Exam score based on:

1. Team Project & Presentation
   - 25%

2. Individual Essay & Presentation
   - 35%

3. Written Exam
   - 40%

AP Seminar: Themes to consider

belief discrimination health justice
peace sustainability utopia patterns
communication intelligence
education environment identity
home innovation networks
media myth power revolution
place protest transformation
technology traditions wealth/poverty
war discovery government
culture freedom democracy

AP Research – Grade 12 Year

Students learn how to:

- Design, plan, and conduct a year-long mentored, research-based investigation
- Apply research methods and practices to address a real-world topic selected by the student
- Write a university-level research paper, present and orally defend the findings and research methodology

Course Cost ~$195

Exam score based on:

1. Academic Thesis Paper (~5,000 words)
   - 75%

2. Public Presentation and Oral Defense
   - 25%

AP Seminar is a prerequisite to AP Research.

What Universities are saying about AP Capstone

"At the University of Washington, we would be very interested in enrolling students who have distinguished themselves through the AP Capstone program."

Phillip Ballinger, Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment and Undergraduate Admissions, University of Washington

"AP Seminar and AP Research are terrific classes that prepare students to think in non-formulaic ways."

Stuart Schmill, Dean of Admissions, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

"In AP Capstone, you get students turned on to higher education in a way they are not currently and they enter university with a different kind of attitude."

Susan Roth, Vice Provost for Interdisciplinary Studies, Duke University, AP Capstone Curriculum Advisory Committee

AP Capstone: The Benefits

- **Distinction** – Stand out in the university admission process and have the opportunity to earn valuable university credit or placement
- **Critical Skills** – Students acquire rigorous university-level analysis, writing, and research skills that are increasingly valued by universities
- **Choice** – Students choose their own research topic and study issues and topics of interest and importance to them

Life Connections/Capstone

- Students completing both AP Seminar and AP Research will also receive credit for the Life Connections/Capstone course at the same time.
- There is a large overlap of curricular competencies and skills between the three courses.
- A Portfolio of Skill Development will be kept through AP Seminar and AP Research = Life Connections Portfolio
- AP Research project and oral presentation = Capstone Project

AP Capstone Program

Questions?

- See Ms. Henderson or Ms. Gibson
- Or Ms. Fraser (VP)
- Talk to your Counsellor