

AP CAPSTONE PROGRAM

SMITHVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

*ALL INFORMATION COMES FROM AP COLLEGE BOARD

<https://advancesinap.collegeboard.org/ap-capstone>

WHAT IS AP CAPSTONE?

- 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.
- 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.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

- <https://youtu.be/0aoEXEIQKTM>

BENEFITS OF AP CAPSTONE

For students, for teachers & schools, and for colleges & universities

BENEFITS FOR STUDENTS

- Fosters the research, argumentation, and communication skills that are at the core of college readiness and essential for lifelong learning
- Provides a setting to build on the knowledge and rigorous course work of AP in an interdisciplinary format
- Offers students a unique opportunity to distinguish themselves to colleges and universities

FOR TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS

- Builds professional excellence through participation in an intensive, week long collaborative professional development institute
- Offers a flexible curricular content model with room for creativity and student input
- Affords schools and districts the distinction of offering a rigorous, widely recognized diploma program

BENEFITS FOR COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

- Helps identify students who are prepared to enter college with the research, writing, and collaboration skills necessary for successful college completion
- Provides consistent, externally validated measures of student ability
- Demonstrates student research and writing abilities through a 5,000-word scholarly research paper

WHY WAS AP CAPSTONE DEVELOPED?

COMBINING SCHOLARLY PRACTICE WITH ACADEMIC INTENSITY

- 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.

WHO HAS THE AP CAPSTONE PROGRAM?

NATIONWIDE

- 1100+ schools
- The AP Capstone Program is in.....

MISSOURI

- Affton High School – St. Louis, MO
- Branson High School – Branson, MO
- David H Hickman High School – Columbia, MO
- Park Hill High School – Kansas City, MO
- Smithville R-II High School – Smithville, MO
- **1of 5 districts in the whole state!**

HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPORTS CAPSTONE

- The colleges and universities below have confirmed their support for AP Capstone™ by signing a statement of support endorsing its rigorous interdisciplinary approach, and/or by granting credit for a qualifying score in AP Seminar, AP Research, or both.
- S– Have signed a Statement of Support publicly endorsing AP Capstone.
- P– Have developed credit and placement policies for AP Seminar, AP Research, or both.
- Updated: July 2017

MIDWEST

MISSOURI COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

- DeVry University: Kansas City - P
- Fontbonne University - P
- Harris-Stowe State University - P
- Missouri University of Science and Technology - P
- Missouri Valley College - P
- University of Missouri - S
- University of Missouri: Kansas City -P

KANSAS COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

- Kansas State University - S
- Newman University - S
- University of Kansas – S P

<https://advancesinap.collegeboard.org/ap-cap-stone/higher-education-support>

HOW AP CAPSTONE WORKS

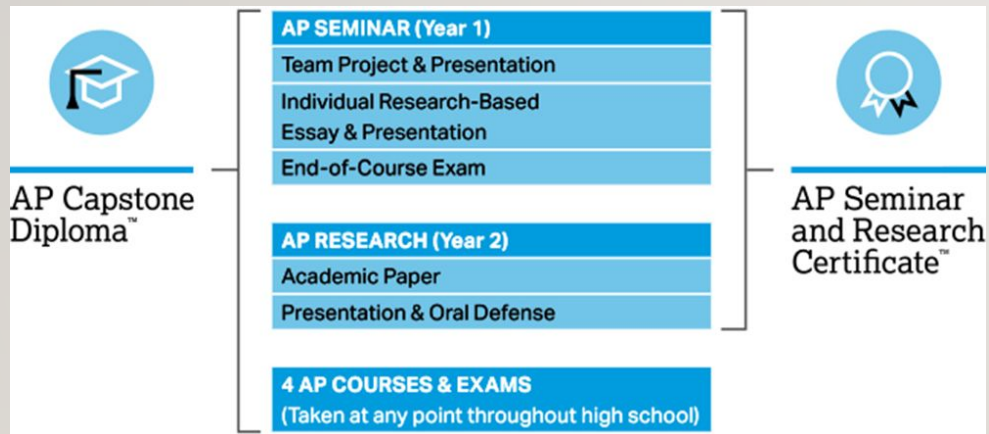


AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA VS. AP CAPSTONE CERTIFICATE DESIGNATION

- Students typically take AP Seminar in grade 10 or 11, followed by AP Research. 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™.
- Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research but not on four additional AP Exams receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™.

WHAT CAN STUDENTS EXPECT?

CAPSTONE CLASS SEQUENCE & COURSE ASSESSMENTS



STUDENTS EXPLORE THEIR INTERESTS THROUGH CAPSTONE

- <https://youtu.be/yPsQyn6NaLE>

THE QUEST FRAMEWORK

In the AP Capstone™ program, students consider and evaluate multiple points of view to develop their own perspectives on complex issues and topics through inquiry and investigation.

AP Capstone gives students the following pedagogical framework (“QUEST”) to develop, practice, and hone their critical and creative thinking skills as they make connections between various issues and their own lives:



Q – QUESTION & EXPLORE

- Questioning begins with an initial exploration of complex topics or issues. Perspectives and questions emerge that spark one's curiosity, leading to an investigation that challenges and expands the boundaries of one's current knowledge.

U – UNDERSTAND & ANALYZE ARGUMENTS

- Understanding various perspectives requires contextualizing arguments and evaluating the authors' claims and lines of reasoning.

EVALUATE MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES

- Evaluating an issue involves considering and evaluating multiple perspectives, both individually and in comparison to one another.

SYNTHESIZE IDEAS

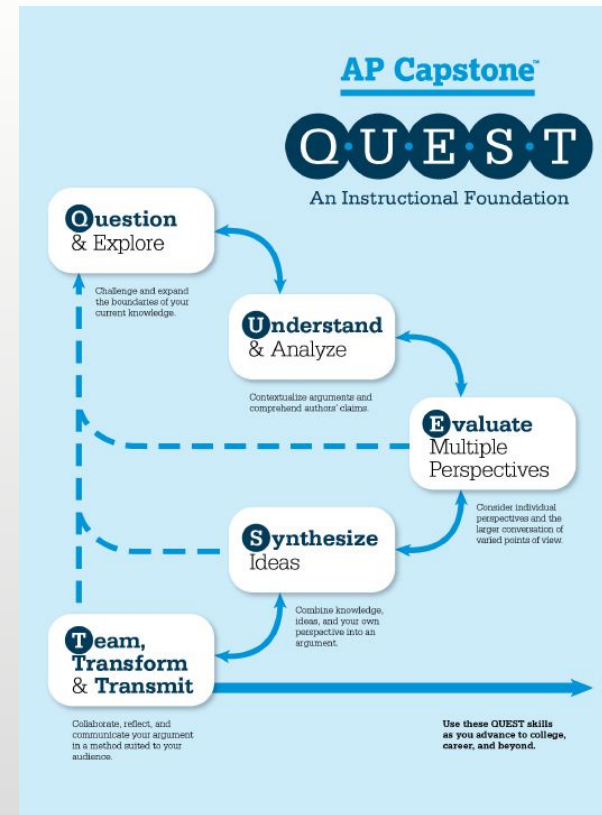
- Synthesizing others' ideas with one's own may lead to new understandings and is the foundation of a well-reasoned argument that conveys one's perspective.

TEAM, TRANSFORM, AND TRANSMIT

- Teaming allows one to combine personal strengths and talents with those of others to reach a common goal. Transformation and growth occur upon thoughtful reflection. Transmitting requires the adaptation of one's message based on audience and context.

IN THIS YEAR LONG COURSE, STUDENTS DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN ANALYTIC AND INQUIRY SKILLS, EXPLORING TWO TO FOUR RELEVANT ISSUES CHOSEN BY THE STUDENT AND/OR TEACHER. FOR EXAMPLE, STUDENTS MIGHT EXPLORE THE QUESTION OF WHETHER NATIONAL SECURITY IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN A CITIZEN'S RIGHT TO PRIVACY, OR WHETHER GENETIC ENGINEERING IS A BENEFIT TO SOCIETY.

Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles; research studies; foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to consider an issue from multiple perspectives, evaluate the strength of an argument, and make logical, fact-based decisions. Students question, research, explore, pose solutions, develop arguments, collaborate, and communicate using various media. After taking AP Seminar, students will have the opportunity to further hone their inquiry and analytical writing skills in AP Research



AP SEMINAR ASSESSMENT

- AP Seminar students are assessed with two through-course performance tasks and one end-of-course exam. The performance tasks consist of a team project and presentation, and an individual research-based essay and presentation. All three assessments are summative and are used to calculate a final AP score of 1 to 5.
- Written performance task components are scored by the College Board and presentations are teacher-scored. The end-of-course exam is in May; it takes two hours and consists of three short-answer questions and one essay question.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

AP SEMINAR

- In this yearlong course, students develop and strengthen analytic and inquiry skills, exploring two to four relevant issues chosen by the student and/or teacher. For example, students might explore the question of whether national security is more important than a citizen's right to privacy, or whether genetic engineering is a benefit to society.
- Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles; research studies; foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to consider an issue from multiple perspectives, evaluate the strength of an argument, and make logical, fact-based decisions. Students question, research, explore, pose solutions, develop arguments, collaborate, and communicate using various media. After taking AP Seminar, students will have the opportunity to further hone their inquiry and analytical writing skills in AP Research.

AP RESEARCH

- AP Seminar is a prerequisite for AP Research.
- AP Research allows students to design, plan, and conduct a yearlong research-based investigation on a topic of individual interest, documenting their process with a portfolio. This allows students to demonstrate the ability to apply scholarly understanding to real-world problems and issues.
- Students further the skills developed in AP Seminar by learning how to understand research methodology, employ ethical research practices, and access, analyze, and synthesize information to build, present, and defend an argument. Students may choose to do one of the following:
 - Dig deeper into a topic studied in an AP course.
 - Work across academic areas with an interdisciplinary topic.
 - Study a new area of interest, perhaps one for further study at the college level.

AP RESEARCH ASSESSMENT

- The AP Research course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000 to 5,000 words and a presentation with an oral defense. The presentation is teacher-scored, and the academic paper is scored by the College Board. There is no end-of-course exam for AP Research.
- Both components are included in the calculation of a final AP score (using the 1–5 scale).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-seminar>

<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/apcourse/ap-research>