

Wilson AP Capstone Push Yourself, Pull the Team

- AP Capstone[™] is a diploma program based on two year long AP courses: AP Seminar and AP Research. These courses are designed to complement other AP courses that the AP Capstone student may take.
- Instead of teaching specific subject knowledge, AP Seminar and AP Research use an interdisciplinary approach to develop the critical thinking, research, collaboration, time management, and presentation skills students need for college-level work.
- The College Board developed the AP Capstone Diploma program at the request of higher education professionals, who saw a need for a systematic way for high school students to begin mastering these skills before college.

Program Details

- Students typically take AP Seminar in grade 10 or 11, followed by AP Research. Each course is yearlong, and AP Seminar is a prerequisite for AP Research.
- In both courses, students investigate a variety of topics in multiple disciplines. Students may choose to explore topics related to other AP courses they're taking.
- Both courses guide students through completing a research project, writing an academic paper, and making a presentation on their project.

Over the course of the two-year program, students are required 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.

Assessment

AP scores for both courses are based on teacher assessment of student presentation components and College Board scoring of student-written components plus an end-of-course exam (for AP Seminar only).

AP Seminar - Students may forecast for this course in 2019/2020!

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world issues and topics. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing a variety of texts including articles, research studies, speeches, multimedia, and artistic performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in research-based essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. The course's central aim is to equip students to accurately analyze and evaluate information with precision, and craft strong, evidence-based arguments. There is a written end-of course exam. AP Seminar is the first course students must take to qualify for the AP Capstone Diploma, an opportunity for Wilson students in 2020/2021. In its inaugural year at Wilson, we are offering AP Seminar as an AP elective to 10th and 11th grade students. The AP Research course which follows AP Seminar will be offered in 2020/21.

AP Research

In 2020/2021, Wilson will offer AP Research, a course in which students explore various research methods and complete an independence research project. The project can build on a topic, problem, or issue covered in AP Seminar or on a brand new topic of the student's choosing. At the end of the project, students submit an academic paper and present and defend research findings. These components contribute to the to the overall AP Research score. There is no end-of-course exam.

What do students choose to study?

Here are some topics that students have chosen to investigate in **AP Seminar**:

- Effect of texting on grammar skills
- Food waste solutions
- Future of the automotive industry
- Importance of voting age and civic participation of teens
- Mathematics behind extreme sports
- Genetically modified organisms
- Role of art in education
- Wealth inequality

Visit the AP Seminar student home page at **apstudent.org/seminar**

Here are some topics that students have chosen to investigate in **AP Research**:

- 3-D printed prosthetics for amputees
- Algorithm of K-POP music
- Effects of sleep deprivation on academic achievement in teens
- Learning chemistry through musical chords
- Environmental injustice in subsidized housing
- Effect of popular opinion on the implementation of Supreme Court decisions

Visit the AP Research student home page at apstudent.org/research

Awards

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[™].

