

ST. CHARLES NORTH HIGH SCHOOL

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE: *AP Seminar*

COURSE CURRICULUM

COURSE DESCRIPTION: AP Seminar is the first course in the AP Capstone experience and an opportunity for students to engage in rigorous, interdisciplinary study of a focused Social Studies topic. Students use an inquiry framework to explore a variety of disciplinary texts and artifacts, synthesize information, develop their own perspectives and communicate through written and oral presentations, both independently and collaboratively. 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, through a focused exploration of a Social Studies topic.

UNITS OF STUDY:

First Semester:

| | Topic | Assessment |
|--|---|--|
| Mini-Unit #1 August | How do we know what we know? | Modified End-of-Course Exam, Part A (EOC-A) |
| Unit #2 September | Class-Selected Theme; Group selected research topic | Modified Individual Research Report (IRR) |
| Unit #3 October | Class-Selected Theme; Group selected research topic | Modified Team Multimedia Presentation (TMP) |
| Unit #4 November | Class-Selected Theme; Student selected research focus within theme | Modified Individual Written Argument (IWA) |
| Final Assessment December | Class-Selected Theme; Student selected research focus within theme | Modified Individual Media Presentation (IMP) |
| Begin Performance Task #1 (just before Winter Break) | | |

Second Semester:

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| January - Mid February | Performance Task #1: Team Project and Presentation | Individual Research Report (IRR) |
| | | Team Multimedia Presentation (TMP) |
| Late February - Mid-April | Performance Task #2: Individual Research-Based Essay and Presentation | Individual Written Argument (IWA) |
| | | Individual Multimedia Presentation & Oral Defense (IMP / OD) |
| Late April-Early May | End-of-Course Exam Preparation | |
| May 12 | End-of-Course AP Exam (parts A-B) | |
| May 13 - End of Year | Final Project, Reflection, and Looking forward | |

TEXT:

N/A

Students engage in a variety of sources from across genres.

GRADING SCALE:

| | |
|--------------|---|
| 90% – 100% | A |
| 80% - 89% | B |
| 70% - 79% | C |
| 60% - 69% | D |
| 59% or below | F |

GRADING RULES:**First Semester:**

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 60% Common Assessments | Modified EOC-A (5%) |
| | Modified IRR (20%) |
| | Modified TMP (15%) |
| | Modified IWA (20%) |
| 20% Final Assessment | Modified IMP (18%) |
| | Modified Oral Defense (2%) |
| 15% Formative Assessments | |
| 5% Homework | |

Second Semester:

| | | |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 80% AP "Exam" -- Performance Tasks | IRR Checkpoints (10%) | IRR Reflection (10%) |
| | TMP Checkpoints (10%) | TMP Reflection (10%) |
| | IWA Checkpoints (10%) | IWA Reflection (10%) |
| | IMP Checkpoints (10%) | IMP Reflection (10%) |
| 20% Final Assessment | | |

Per College Board policy, classroom teachers will be responsible for scoring the Team Multimedia Presentation (TMP) and Individual Multimedia Presentation (IMP); however, these scores are *not* shared with students.

The work that students complete during second semester will primarily be in completion of the required performance tasks that constitute 55% of a student's overall AP Score. Their grade for second semester, however, will be based on the assessment of students' performance in a variety of in-class activities that support students' preparation, practice and processing of materials needed to complete the performance tasks.

- **Individual and Group Assessment:** In general, students are assessed on their individual performance of identified skills. However, student groups receive a single score on the Team Multimedia Presentation (TMP); this practice will be followed in the Unit 3 (Modified TMP) Assessment as well. Student groups will be able to revise their Unit 3 Assessments as needed, as per course guidelines.
- **Late Work:** Due to the nature of the course and the expectations and deadlines established by the College Board, **all Unit Assessments and Performance Tasks must be submitted by the stated due date.** Students who have excused absences from school must communicate with their teacher and are expected to submit assignments upon their return.
- **AP Capstone Policy on Plagiarism and Falsification or Fabrication of Information:** A student who fails to acknowledge the source or author of any and all information or evidence taken from the work of someone else through citation, attribution or reference in the body of the work, or through a bibliographic entry, will receive a score of 0 on that particular component of the AP Seminar and/or AP Research Performance Task. In AP Seminar, a team of students that fails to properly acknowledge sources or authors on the Team Multimedia Presentation will receive a group score of 0 for that component of the Team Project and Presentation.

A student who incorporates falsified or fabricated information (e.g. evidence, data, sources, and/or authors) will receive a score of 0 on that particular component of the AP Seminar and/or AP Research Performance Task. In AP Seminar, a team of students that incorporates falsified or fabricated information in the Team Multimedia Presentation will receive a group score of 0 for that component of the Team Project and Presentation.