

AP Capstone Seminar FAQ

What is AP Capstone?

(From the College Board description) “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 consists 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 argument-based writing skills that the AP Capstone program develops.”

“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 is AP Seminar?

(From the College Board description) “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 Seminar is a unique course that allows students to explore topics that interest them.

Who should take AP Seminar? The RPHS Seminar course is designed around current events. If you are interested in what is going on in the country and the world, as well as improving your research, writing, and presentation skills, then this is the class for you.

What are the prerequisites? AP Seminar is an open enrollment course, offered to Juniors and Seniors. (*Please note, seniors that take AP Seminar are not able to receive the Capstone Diploma or Certificate, since they will not be able to take and pass AP Research)

*It is recommended that Juniors take AP English 3, and Seniors take Dual Credit English 4

What is the cost for AP Seminar? As of the 2025-2026 school year, the cost is \$99

What kind of workload can I expect in AP Seminar? In AP Seminar, we are regularly investigating topics as well as discussing (almost daily basis), writing, and presenting findings. The expectation is that students are participating regularly in class, including giving oral and multimedia presentations. You don't need to start off perfect, but you need to be willing to work to get better. Students taking AP Seminar are also required to complete the 2 AP Seminar Presentation Tasks in the Spring Semester, as well as the written exam in May, in order to earn their AP score.

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at:

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