AP Capstone Year 1: AP Seminar

Mr. Boren - Room B-110

AP Capstone

QUEST
An Instructional Foundation

**Question & Explore**
Challenge and expand the boundaries of your current knowledge.

**Understand & Analyze**
Contextualize arguments and comprehend authors' claims.

**Evaluate Multiple Perspectives**
Consider individual perspectives and the larger conversation of varied points of view.

**Synthesize Ideas**
Combine knowledge, ideas, and your own perspective into an argument.

**Team, Transform & Transmit**
Collaborate, reflect, and communicate your argument in a method suited to your audience.

Use these QUEST skills as you advance to college, career, and beyond.
Overview of the Quest Framework

- Students consider and evaluate multiple points of view to develop their own perspectives on complex issues and topics through inquiry and investigation.

- Quest Framework provides students with a framework to develop, practice and hone their critical and creative thinking skills as they make connections between various issues and their own lives.

- The recursive nature of this process allows students to go back and forth between the different stages of inquiry as they encounter new information.
Course Sequence and Overview

**Fall Semester**
AP Exam Practice - Completing
Little r Research and writing

**Spring Semester**
AP Exam - 3 Performance Tasks
Beginning January

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**Units and Standards:**

- **5 Big Ideas used throughout**
  - Question and Explore
  - Understand and Analyze
  - Evaluate Multiple Perspectives
  - Synthesize Ideas
  - Team, Transform, and Transmit

- **The first task will focus your research on a business issue of your choice**. Research for the second task may or may not include a business issue.

- **First 2-3 Months of the semester**
  - We will be looking at a topic together as a class using the QUEST Framework listed above
  - You will learn how to conduct proper academic research, analyze various sources from multiple perspectives, and synthesize those ideas together

- **Starting Mid October**
  - Students will be practicing performance Task

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**Units and Standards:**

- **January: Performance Task 1**
  - The Individual Research Report and Team Multimedia Presentation
    - See Next Slide for Details about each performance task

- **February-March: Performance Task 2**
  - The Individual Written Argument and Individual Multimedia Presentation
    - See Next Slide for Details about each performance task

- **April-May: Test Prep and End of Course Exam**
  - End of Course Exam is only 1 hour and 30 minutes and has 2 parts
    - See Next Slide for details

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**NOTE**

Please be advised that if you plan to take the AP Exam for this course, you must register in November. Once you submit anything (in January) you will be expected to pay the $142 fee to College Board. Individuals who do not wish to take the exam will still be completing all of the same work, but will not be eligible for the AP Capstone Diploma.
Performance Task 1: Individual Research Report and Team Multimedia Presentation - Due April 30, 2021

- **Overview:**
  - Students will get into groups (student chosen) - Each group will pick a research topic that solves some Business problem
  - Groups will then choose 3-5 different lenses or perspectives to view their research question
  - Each member of the group will choose a lens/perspective and conduct their research from that lens

- **Individual Research Report**
  - Each student in the group will be writing their own individual report on the Group’s research question from the lens that they chose.
  - These reports do not have to have a solution to the research question

- **Team Multimedia Presentation**
  - Once all students in the group have written their reports, the team will come back together, read each other’s reports, and see if they can devise a solution for their research question.
  - Additional Outside research may be done to come up with multiple solutions.
  - Students will then create a multimedia presentation (on Google Slides or Powerpoint) and present their Research Question, Problem, and agreed upon solutions to that problem.

Performance Task 2: Individual Written Argument and Individual Multimedia Presentation - Due April 30, 2021

- **Overview:**
  - Students will be working individually on this performance task

- **Individual Written Argument**
  - Students will choose a different research topic than the one they did with their groups for performance task 1.
  - They will be given a set of 7 sources (called stimulus materials) from College Board that all have a common theme.
    - Last year’s Theme was Happiness, while the year before it was new societal issues like social media and climate change
  - Students MUST use at least one of the 7 sources from College Board when planning and writing their paper.
  - At the end of the paper, students will make a clear argument and devise a clear solution to the problem that they are addressing.

- **Individual Multimedia Presentation**
  - The individual presentation is a Google Slides or Powerpoint of the information from the student’s IWA.

Performance Task 3: The End of Course Exam - 1 hour and 30 Minutes - May 11, 2021

- **Overview:**
  - The Exam is 1 hour and 30 minutes long and is the easiest of the Performance Tasks
  - There are 2 parts

- **Part A: Analysis**
  - Students will be given 1 Source (typically a news or short scholarly article)
  - They will be asked to find the Main Idea of the Author’s Argument, to Identify the Author’s Line of Reasoning, and to Discuss the relevance and credibility of the Author’s Evidence

- **Part B: Synthesis**
  - Students will be given a set of 4 sources, typically short excerpts from articles or informational documents
  - They will be asked to identify a common theme between 2 of the sources they are given and then establish an argument with a clear line of reasoning, using those 2 sources as their evidence for their argument.
**Materials and Technology**

**Everything that you do will be submitted through the AP Digital Portfolio. You will get access to this when you are registered into my AP Classroom at the beginning of the year.**

**Ebsco is a database that houses scholarly articles, you get free access to Ebsco from College Board because you are enrolled in an AP Capstone course. The link to access will be on your AP Digital Portfolio Page.**

**Gale is another Database for scholarly articles and sources. You get free access through the district. The best place to access Gale is through your Classlink Access Page.**

There is no textbook for this course, all materials you will need will be able to be found through the databases provided.

**Required Materials**

- **Even while not Distance Learning, you will need constant access to a computer (you will be researching, writing, and collaborating on presentations daily)**

- **You will also need near constant access to reliable internet. While not required to complete your papers and presentations on Google Docs/Slides it is HIGHLY recommended due to the ability to collaborate**

- **You should create a Google Drive folder specifically for AP Seminar and share it with your teacher. Save your sources, papers, and presentations to it.**
Grading:

Students will have time during class to complete graded activities. Grading will consist of a combination of activities. Students earn points for all of the following activities:

**Classwork**
- Participation
- Quick-writes
- Polls/Exit Tickets
- Journals
- Discussions

**Formative Assessment**
- Source Analysis
- Source Credibility Checks

**Summative Assessment**
- Practice End of Course Exams
- Papers
- Presentations
- Portfolio (2nd Semester)

Class Expectations:

**Absences and Late Work:**
- You will be expected to logon to our class’s Google Meet ON TIME and stay the entire time. Any absences will be recorded in Aeries.
- For any EXCUSED Absence, you will have the same number of days absent to make up the work you missed.
- For any UNEXCUSED absence, the teacher will allow for make ups on a case by case basis and only if the student has reached out first.
- Late work is not accepted unless a student has received an extension PRIOR to the Due Date.
- If there are technical issues, you MUST reach out to the teacher to inform them and accommodations will be made.

**Academic Dishonesty:**
- Plagiarism and cheating of any kind will NOT be tolerated.
- This includes, copying a classmate’s notes and using as your own.
- Using prohibited devices on tests and quizzes.
- Copying and pasting from an online source without the proper quotations and attribution.
- Distance Learning is a little different so most of your assessments will be open notes to discourage you from cheating.
- Any student who has been shown to have plagiarized an assignment or cheated in any way, will be given an automatic zero on that assignment and will be reported to the Academic Vice Principal.

**Student Chosen Topics:**
- Since students will be choosing what to study in this course, all topics must be school appropriate and academic in nature.
- All topics must be approved by the teacher prior to researching and writing.
- If there is a topic that is more delicate, you will need parent/guardian approval in order to pursue it.
- For those with controversial or more mature topics, students will be given a parent/guardian form to sign before they witness the presentations of those topics.
- All students will be respectful toward any topic chosen.
What to Expect

During Distance Learning Class Time

1. **Warm-up/Intro: First 10-15 Minutes** - Check in, Review, Answer Questions, Get all Materials Out and Ready
2. **Direct Instruction: Next 30-40 Minutes** - Guided research, Whole class source analysis, whole class credibility checks, etc.
3. **Student Work: Next 20 Minutes** - Students complete any assignments, may be group work or individual - ex: Complete research, write, work on presentations, one on one check ins with teacher.
4. **Closing: Last 10 Minutes** - Review what was learned, Answer Questions, Go Over HW if Any, Reminders

* Keep in mind that this sequence may change from day to day - it is possible that we may spend the entire time in group discussion, project work, debates, etc.

On Your Own

You will be using the following tools to enhance your learning. Most work on your own will be researching, writing, creating presentations, and practicing presentations. This is not an exhaustive list and it may change at any time:

- Google Classroom
- Kami
- Flipgrid
- Padlet
- Google Docs
- Google Slides

Above are some of the technologies we may use. If you are familiar with some of these please let me know so you can share your knowledge with the rest of the class.

The AP Exam

The AP Exam for this course is unique, it consists of the 3 performance tasks listed earlier. The entire cost is $142 and you MUST pay if you decide to submit anything on AP Digital Portfolio. You can take this course and not pay for the exam. You will still learn valuable research and writing skills that will give you a leg up when you get to college.

You are not eligible for the AP Capstone Diploma if you do not that the exam.
Rules for Google Meet Class Time

Audio Muted Unless Instructed

Video ON Unless Instructed

Chat Rules

We will not use the chat as a place to talk to one another, make jokes, or goof off. The function of chat is to ask questions during the lesson.

The chat should be used any time you have a question - DO NOT unmute yourself to ask a question in the middle of the lesson unless the teacher instructs you to do so.

Any student that violates these rules will be given a warning and then restricted from using chat. Any inappropriate behavior or language on chat will result in a referral to the Vice Principal for discipline.

Netiquette Online Etiquette

1. Join class on time, have your device and materials ready
2. Have a dedicated workspace and look presentable (no pajamas, lying in bed, etc.)
3. Follow instructions and be respectful to the teacher and your classmates during the Google Meet
4. Do not interrupt the teacher verbally, if you have a question, use the chat feature.
5. Remember I can see you and so can your classmates
6. Minimize distractions as much as possible and use headphones with a microphone if you can to cut down on background noise