



# AP Capstone Research Syllabus

**Course Code:** 373100AW

**Subject:** Academic Elective

**Required Prerequisites:** AP Seminar

**Suggested Prerequisites:** None

**Recommended Grade Levels:** Grades 11-12

**Duration:** Yearlong

**Course Availability:** A listing of when this course is offered in the current school year can be found on the [VirtualSC Current Course Offerings page \(opens in a new window\)](#).

**Class Times:** This course has scheduled instructional meetings. Information on scheduled meetings for each course is communicated by the teacher. Recordings of these meetings will be available for students unable to attend. Students should expect to spend 7-9 hours a week working on this course independently, in addition to any live meetings, and are expected to meet the deadlines posted in the course pacing guide.

**Textbook:** AP Research has no required textbook.

## Required Course Materials:

- **College Board Account.** If you do not have a College Board account, you can sign up at the [College Board student registration webpage \(opens in a new window\)](#). This account allows you to view AP Scores, SAT scores, and various AP test-related resources.
- **My AP Account.** You will need create a [My AP account \(opens in a new window\)](#) with the College Board. Your instructor will explain how you will use My AP during the course and the AP Digital Portfolio make your final submissions to the College Board at the end of the course.
- **Google or Office 365 Account.** You will receive instructions in the course on how to set up Google or Office 365 folders for your PREP Portfolio.
- **Video Camera.** You will need access to a phone, camera, or computer so that you can record video presentations.

**Outside Websites:** A list of links to websites and online textbooks used in this course can be found here: [VSC Course Links Document Folder \(opens in a new window\)](#). Students will need to be able to access all of these links to access all course materials.

**Final Exam:** AP Research does not require a VirtualSC final exams. Students will register and take the AP Exam outside of this course.

## Course Description

AP Research, the second course in the AP Capstone experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest. Students design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000-5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

The [AP Research Curriculum Framework \(opens in a new window\)](#) guides the curriculum used in this course.

## Scope and Sequence

- Orientation & Introduction
- Unit 1: Beginning Academic Research (Question & Explore)
- Unit 2: Moving from Topic to Proposal (Understand and Analyze)
- Unit 3: Implementing the Research Plan (Evaluate Multiple Perspectives)
- Unit 4: Preparing the Academic Paper (Synthesize Ideas)
- Unit 5: Presenting Your Research (Team, Transform, and Transmit)
- Final Unit: Final Assessments

Students will be provided a full list of assignments and their due dates at the beginning of the course.

Current pacing guides for this course can be found on the [Current Course Offerings page \(opens in a new window\)](#) on the VirtualSC website.

## Course Grades

The final grade in this course results from the following:

- Coursework: 80%
  - Unit 1: 15%
  - Unit 2: 25%
  - Unit 3: 15%
  - Unit 4: 20%
  - Unit 5: 25%
- Final Assessments: 20%

## VirtualSC Details

Information on VirtualSC student guidelines, policies and technology requirements can be found in the [VirtualSC Student Support Portal \(opens in a new window\)](#).