

Welcome to AP Research! I hope you are as excited as I am about you finding a topic and conducting your own analysis for a written and oral presentation of your findings. Before we get into actually researching your topic of choice, we have some reading and soul-searching to do! The work that you generate for this summer assignment will be submitted electronically through eCampus on the second class meeting of the school year. You should create a folder on your school Google drive to archive all your documents, assignments, and presentations. Please name your google drive Last Name\_First Initial AP Research 2021-2022 and you will need to share this with me during the first week of school so, it should not be used for any other classes besides this one.

*While there is no word limit to your responses for the assignments listed below, they should be in grammatically-correct, complete sentences. You will also need to provide supporting textual evidence (or examples) with each response. Your documents will ultimately be analyzed for plagiarism using Turnitin, so please answer using your own voice, word-choice, and perspective.*

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to email ([angela\\_campbell@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:angela_campbell@scps.k12.fl.us)) me at any time!

### **Assignment #1: What is the end product of this course?**

1. This assignment is designed to help you explore and identify essential components of this course. Skim through the AP Capstone Research Course and Exam Description at:  
<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-research-course-and-exam-description.pdf?course=ap-research>
2. Answer the questions/fill in charts on the attached document regarding the specified pages. Save a copy of your answers to your Google drive. Name it using the following format: "Last Name\_First Initial\_Framework."

### **Assignment #2: What does research entail?**

1. Read Ch 1 & 2 from our textbook (Leedy, P. D., & Ormrod, J. E. (2013). *Practical research: Planning and design*. Boston: Pearson.) You can access PDFs for the book below:  
Chapter 1: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1hOFPySPB47P10Byzd1O0q6pzDp739ya7/view?usp=sharing>  
Chapter 2: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/17c-LszoDgJTFNLwn3QVh5yrbbHc7PMNu/view?usp=sharing>
2. Answer the questions on the attached document and save a copy of your answers to your Google drive. Name it using the following format: "Last Name\_First Initial\_Ch1\_2."

### **Assignment #3: Finding a research project**

Coming up with a research project can be a daunting task. One way to approach this is to think about the subjects in school that interest you and focus on them. Another way is to look through current events in an effort to identify gaps in the knowledge-base. This assignment is meant to teach you how to use the latter method for finding project ideas.

1. Find current event(s) from the specific sites listed for five different topics that you might turn into a project. BE SURE TO PICK SUBJECTS THAT TRULY INTEREST YOU! Each current event must be dated between 4/2021 and 8/2021.

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|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • npr.org           | • allsides.com      | • scholar.google.com                |
| • theweek.com       | • insidescience.org | • local news sites/local newspapers |
| • opposingviews.com | • sciencenews.org   |                                     |

2. Answer the following set of questions for each current event. Save a copy of your answers to your Google drive. Name it using the following format: "Last Name\_First Initial\_Ideas."

- a. What was the thesis/main idea/argument of the article?
- b. What specific evidence was used to support the these/main idea/argument?
- c. Why was the argument made in the article convincing or inconclusive?
- d. What question could you ask that would further probe the topic of the article?
- e. What resources would you need to gather answers to the question you posed above?
- f. What is the complete works cited entry for this source in MLA format? (Use citationmachine.com)

## **What is the end product of this course?**

### **Performance Task:** (p. 47)

Academic paper=\_\_\_\_\_%

Presentation and Oral Defense (POD)=\_\_\_\_\_%

Summarize the Task Overview section (3-5 sentences):

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### **Academic Paper:** (p. 48 bottom and 49)

Complete the chart by describing (summary if possible) each required element:

<b>Required Element</b>	<b>Description</b>
<i>Introduction</i>	
<i>Method, Process, or Approach</i>	
<i>Results, Product, or Findings</i>	
<i>Discussion, Analysis, and/or Evaluation</i>	
<i>Conclusion and Future Directions</i>	
<i>Bibliography</i>	

**Presentation and Oral Defense:** (p. 49 bottom and 50) Summarize main points from entire section.

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**Timeline:** (p. 36) Summarize the task(s) for each time period:

<b>Month(s)</b>	<b>Task(s)</b>
<i><b>May-August (End of AP Seminar Course &amp; Summer)</b></i>	
<i><b>September-October</b></i>	
<i><b>October-November</b></i>	
<i><b>November-January</b></i>	
<i><b>January-March</b></i>	
<i><b>March-April</b></i>	
<i><b>April-May</b></i>	

## What does research entail?

Title of Reading	Pages	Questions for Reflection
What Research is Not	1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is Research not? Is there anything that surprised you in this section?</li> </ul>
What Research is	2-7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>According to the CB, your final product in this class will bridge a gap in knowledge. According to what you read in this section, what does this mean? What are you expected to do throughout the process of writing your academic paper?</li> </ul>
Tools of Research	7-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Which academic disciplines lend themselves to the use of statistics? Which do not?</li> <li>What type of statistics is most preferable in an academic research undertaking, descriptive or inferential? Why? Which academic disciplines lend themselves to the use of statistics?</li> <li>Why do you think the College Board decided to make the academic paper count for 75% of your score?</li> </ul>
The Human Mind	16-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Which subsection – Critical Thinking, Deductive Logic, Inductive Reasoning, Scientific Method, Theory Building, and Collaboration is most critical for Research? Why?</li> </ul>
Reflections on Significant Research	22-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look at Figure 1.3 “Common pitfalls in human reasoning”. Knowing yourself, which of the pitfalls are you most afraid of committing this year?</li> </ul>
Exploring Research in Your Field	24-26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should non-juried citations automatically be discarded?</li> <li>After reading this chapter, compare AND contrast AP Seminar to AP Research. How is Research an extension of Seminar? How is it different? Use textual evidence to emphasize your claims.</li> </ul>
Finding Research Projects	27-35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What types of problems are not suitable research projects? Why?</li> </ul>
Dividing the Research into Problems and Subproblems	36-39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is the difference between a problem, a sub-problem, and a pseudo-subproblem?</li> </ul>
Every Problem Needs Further Delineation	39-45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define the following terms and give examples of each: Independent variable Dependent variable Mediating (intervening) variable Moderating variable</li> <li>What is the difference between using a null versus a research hypothesis? Which is preferred? Why?</li> <li>Why is it important to state delimitations in a research plan prior to beginning the study?</li> <li>Why is it important to state definitions of terms in a research plan prior to beginning the study?</li> <li>Why is it important to state assumptions in a research plan prior to beginning the study?</li> </ul>
Ordering the Topics in a Research Proposal	45-50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Should there be a formula for writing a research proposal? Why/why not?</li> <li>What subsections are a must in every good research proposal?</li> </ul>