

Course Syllabus: AP Seminar

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Course Overview

In AP Seminar, students investigate real-world issues from multiple perspectives, gathering and analyzing information from various sources in order to develop credible and valid evidence-based arguments. AP Seminar aims to empower students by doing the following:

- engaging students with rigorous college-level curricula focused on the skills necessary for successful college completion
- extending students' abilities to synthesize information from multiple perspectives and apply skills in new situations and cross-curricular contexts
- enabling students to collect and analyze information with accuracy and precision
- cultivating students' abilities to craft, communicate, and defend evidence-based arguments
- providing opportunities for students to practice disciplined and scholarly research skills while exploring relevant topics that appeal to their interests and curiosity

Students will demonstrate effective teamwork during group work activities, including using appropriate communication skills to give and receive information orally and in writing. Students will exhibit appropriate work ethic and behavior in class and on assignments and apply decision-making and problem-solving techniques to address problems that may arise. In utilizing these skills in our class, students will practice skills needed for employment and career experiences post-high school.

Coursework

33%	Essays	Individually-written research reports and written arguments
33%	Presentations	Group presentations and oral defense
33%	Participation	Class discussion, group work, peer review, research, vocabulary, journal, and other activities.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the act of taking ideas, passages, or writing of others and using them as one's own, without acknowledgement or documentation. Intentional plagiarism on the part of a student is very serious offense and may result in a failing grade for the course or other disciplinary measures. Common instances of plagiarism include such practices as copying sentences from another student's paper, turning in papers written by someone else, failing to credit the source of ideas, and incorrectly treating specialized information gained from sources as knowledge so widely held that it requires no documentation. Even accidental plagiarism is considered plagiarism. Be careful in your writing and cite all ideas, passages, and writing from others.

Grading Scale

90%—100% = A, 80%—89% = B, 70%—79% = C, 60%—69% = D, 50%—59% = F

Required Materials

College-ruled paper and a pen or pencil.

Late work

Students will be expected to turn work in on time—we do most work in class, so late work will not be accepted unless there are extenuating circumstances (i.e. students with Individual Education Plans (IEP), 504 plans, and other agreements made with the instructor ahead of time).

AP Exam Requirement

In order to receive trimester three credit for this course at Corbett High School, all students are required to take the AP Seminar exam, unless explicit authorization by the instructor has been made in advance.

This syllabus is subject to change throughout the year. Students will be notified of such changes verbally and in writing on the course website.