**AP SEMINAR**

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT 2022

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First of all, welcome to the first course in the AP Capstone diploma program!

AP Capstone is an innovative diploma program that provides students with an opportunity to engage in rigorous scholarly practice of the core academic skills necessary for successful college completion.

AP Seminar is designed to complement and enhance the in-depth, discipline-specific study provided through AP courses. It cultivates curious, independent, and collaborative scholars and prepares students to make logical, evidence-based decisions.

AP Seminar is founded on the QUEST concept:

 **Q**uestion and explore

* **U**nderstand and analyze arguments
* **E**valuate multiple perspectives
* **S**ynthesize ideas
* **T**eam, transform, and transmit

Through this concept, you will break down topics and issues by viewing them through specific lenses. You will use these lenses to analyze a number of different debates for this assignment, as well as throughout the year. Therefore it is important that you familiarize yourself with these terms.

**The lenses are**: Environmental, Scientific, Economic, Political and Historical, Artistic and Philosophical, Cultural and Social.

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**TO**

**PIC**

**SCIENTIFIC**

**POLITICAL/**

**HISTORICAL**

**ECONOM**

**IC**

**CULTURAL/**

**SOCIAL**

**ENVIRONMENTAL**

**ARTISTIC/**

**PHILOSOPHICAL**

To prepare for our studies next year in AP Seminar, the following assignment has been created to give you a glimpse of the types of questions we will ask, research we will conduct, and arguments we will write. You will use the lenses above to complete the assignment below.

# Your Assignment (50 points)

1. Choose a socially-relevant topic that is in the news. (Entertainment “news” (gossip) is not socially relevant!).

 Some examples are: college campus rapes, climate change, abortion, healthcare, immigration, media bias, gun control and gun rights, environment, political polarization, standardized testing in schools, and terrorism.

1. Find 3 articles on your topic that represent different perspectives on the topic. Use the above lenses (see first page) to help you brainstorm different ways to think about your topic (beyond a simple “pro/con, or for/against” type perspective. Print the articles (hard copy or print to pdf on your computer). You will want to annotate them to help guide your reading and response **(I will not be collecting your printed articles and annotations).**
2. For each article, annotate the article, considering what the author is claiming, whether the information is biased, which perspectives are represented, which are left out, and how well the writer supports his or her claims. Tips for annotating are attached.
3. **Write a reflection on your chosen topic in which you address:**
	1. Why you chose your topic and why you believe it is socially relevant.
	2. How did you find your sources, and how do you know that your sources are credible and trustworthy?
	3. What you learned about the topic that you didn’t know before.
	4. How the topic is being covered in the news. What are the areas of focus?
	5. What final conclusions can you draw about the topic based on your reading?
4. Your reflection must be 250 words *minimum*.

ii. Your reflection must follow MLA guidelines.