

# Explore Your Passion with **AP** Capstone<sup>™</sup>

## THE AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA PROGRAM LETS YOU:



Study topics of your own choosing, in depth.



Master key skills you'll use in college and career.



Stand out in your college applications and interviews.



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# What Is the AP Capstone Diploma Program?

AP Capstone™ is a diploma program based on two AP courses: **AP Seminar** and **AP Research**. These yearlong courses focus on developing the critical thinking, research, collaboration, time management, and presentation skills you need for college-level work.

## AP Seminar

In this course, you'll learn to consider an issue from multiple perspectives, identify credible sources, evaluate strengths and weaknesses of arguments, and make logical, evidence-based recommendations. You'll investigate a variety of topics through various viewpoints of your choice.

During the course, you'll complete a team project and an individual paper and presentation, as well as take a written end-of-course exam. These components contribute to the overall AP Seminar score.

AP Seminar is a prerequisite for AP Research.

## AP Research

In AP Research, you'll explore various research methods and complete an independent research project. Your project can build on a topic, problem, or issue you covered in AP Seminar or on a brand new topic of your own choosing.

At the end of the project, you'll submit your academic paper and present and defend your research findings. These components contribute to the overall AP Research score. There is no end-of-course exam.

Here are some topics that students have chosen to investigate in **AP Seminar**:

- Effect of texting on grammar skills
- Food waste solutions
- Future of the automotive industry
- Importance of voting age and civic participation of teens
- Mathematics behind extreme sports
- Genetically modified organisms
- Role of art in education
- Wealth inequality

Visit the AP Seminar student home page at [apstudent.org/seminar](https://apstudent.org/seminar)

Here are some topics that students have chosen to investigate in **AP Research**:

- 3-D printed prosthetics for amputees
- Algorithm of K-POP music
- Effects of sleep deprivation on academic achievement in teens
- Learning chemistry through musical chords
- Environmental injustice in subsidized housing
- Effect of popular opinion on the implementation of Supreme Court decisions

Visit the AP Research student home page at [apstudent.org/research](https://apstudent.org/research)

# How It Works

If you earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of your choice, you'll receive the **AP Capstone Diploma™**.

If you earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research, you'll receive the **AP Seminar and Research Certificate™**.



## What AP Capstone Alumni Say

**“Just do it. ... Not a day goes by where I don’t use a skill I learned in the course.”**

—REAGAN, THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

**“AP Capstone helped me stand out from other applicants.”**

—ELIZABETH, INDIANA UNIVERSITY BLOOMINGTON

**“My experience in AP Capstone gave me exposure to a field I couldn’t really access in the normal school curriculum.”**

—KAELIN, THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS–AUSTIN

**“AP Capstone helped me work independently, think critically about research and the research process, and organize myself so I can present to other people.”**

—MICHAEL, STANFORD UNIVERSITY

**“AP Capstone has given me skills that helped me easily adjust to the college environment.”**

—DESTINI, TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

Learn more about AP Capstone at [collegeboard.org/apcapstone](https://collegeboard.org/apcapstone).

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# Stand Out in College Admission with AP Capstone

AP Capstone candidates stand out:

- On college applications and essays because they demonstrate critical thinking, communication, and research skills associated with AP Capstone.
- In college interviews because of the confidence, expertise, and passion they show when they talk about their unique academic projects.
- To college admission officers, who recognize that AP Capstone students know how to build evidence-based arguments, apply research methods, work in teams, deliver professional presentations, and complete long-term academic projects.

These are just some of the colleges and universities that offer credit and/or placement policies for AP Seminar and AP Research:

- Brigham Young University
- California Institute of Technology
- California State University
- Colorado State University
- Fashion Institute of Technology
- Marquette University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- McGill University
- Michigan State University
- The Ohio State University
- Purdue University
- University at Albany, SUNY
- University of Florida
- University of Illinois
- The University of Texas
- University of Wisconsin
- Washington State University
- West Virginia University

A complete list can be found at [collegeboard.org/apcapstonehed](https://collegeboard.org/apcapstonehed).

## What College Administrators Say

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**“AP Capstone helps students develop key skills that they will use over and over in college: conducting research and communicating their results.”**

—STU SCHMILL, DEAN OF ADMISSIONS AND STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES,  
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

**“AP Capstone not only equips students with critical thinking and communication skills they will need in college, but also immerses them in independent research within a collaborative environment.”**

—PHILIP BALLINGER, ASSOCIATE VICE PROVOST FOR ENROLLMENT AND UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS,  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON