

# **Levittown School District AP Capstone Research**

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AP Capstone is a program from the College Board.

It allows students an opportunity to earn an AP Capstone Diploma by:

- successfully taking AP Seminar as a student's English experience in tenth grade.
- successfully taking the second course, AP Research, as a stand alone course after completing AP Seminar.
- successfully taking four other AP courses in any discipline.



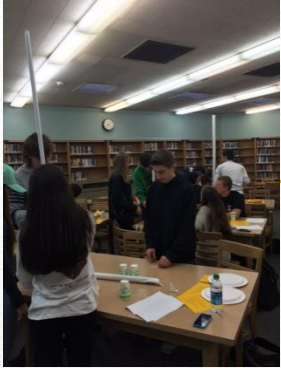
# What is AP Capstone?

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- Fosters research, argumentation, and communication skills.
- Provides a setting to build on the knowledge and rigorous course work of AP in an interdisciplinary format.
- Allows students a choice to challenge themselves academically, and by showing their passion and interest in specific research topics.
- Transforms students into independent thinkers.

## **Benefits of AP Capstone for Students**





## Program Overview

# AP Capstone

## AP Seminar

Themes are chosen that allow for deep exploration based upon:

- student interests
- local and civic issues
- global topics
- concepts from other AP courses

## AP Research

Deep investigation of a topic to foster a scholarly understanding of a real world issue.

- Academic thesis paper
- Public Presentation and Defense

## AP Capstone Diploma™

Students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both of the AP Capstone courses and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing will receive the AP Capstone Diploma™.

### AP SEMINAR (Year 1)

Team Project & Presentation

Research-based Essay & Presentation

Written Exam

### AP RESEARCH (Year 2)

Academic Thesis

Public Presentation and Defense

## AP Capstone Certificate™

Those students who earn scores of 3 or higher in both of the AP Capstone courses but not on the four additional AP Exams will receive the AP Capstone Certificate™, signifying successful performance in those courses.

### 4 AP COURSES (Throughout High School)

AP EXAM 1

AP EXAM 2

AP EXAM 3

AP EXAM 4

## General Course Structure\*

**September:** Students develop research questions, learn discipline-specific citation expectations.

**October:** Students research, refine research question, identify methods, approach and design; Students create annotated bibliographies.

**November:** Students continue research, finalize inquiry proposals, make outside contacts

**December:** Students create surveys and meet with IRB, refine/expand research, conduct peer review.

**January:** Students conduct their studies and collect data.

**February:** Student draft and peer edit.

**March:** Students present and defend their research studies

**April:** Teachers grade and submit student work to College Board by April 30th

- AP Research allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest.
- Through this exploration, students design, plan, and conduct a yearlong investigation to address a research question.
- Students further develop the skills acquired from AP Seminar by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information.

“Let’s go an inch wide and a mile deep as we really research and explore a specific topic of interest...”

# AP Research

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## Format of Assessment



Academic Thesis: worth 75%

Presentation and Oral Defense (15-20 minutes total for presentation followed by 3-4 questions from a panel of 3 evaluators) worth 25%

\*There is no end-of-course exam for AP Research.

# **AP Research (continued)**

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- The AP Research course will be offered to students in the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade year who have successfully completed the AP Seminar course.
- This course will be a stand alone course.
- Students will have the opportunity to take the AP Research course on a Science path or on a Humanities path.

**How will this course be structured in Levittown?**

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# Characteristics of a Successful AP Capstone Student

- Self-Motivated
- Cooperative
- Collaborative
- Hard-working
- Inquisitive
- Enthusiastic
- Determined
- Outgoing
- Willingness to learn



AP Capstone™

# Is this course for you?

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- Students must complete AP Seminar including the end-of-course exam and all required performance tasks to develop the skills necessary to succeed in AP Research.
- Students who score a 1 or a 2 in AP Seminar are still eligible to enroll in AP Research but will need additional support and guidance throughout the course.



# Is this course for you?

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The research culminates into an academic paper of 4,000-5,000 words that include the following components:

- Introduction
- Method, Process, or Approach
- Results, Products, or Findings
- Discussion, Analysis, and/or Evaluation
- Conclusion and Future Directions
- Bibliography

Using appropriate media, students present and defend the topic of inquiry/research question, approach, and findings or product to a panel.

# Is this course for you?

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**Below are some of the 140+ colleges that have endorsed AP Capstone for its challenging interdisciplinary curricula. Also, over 100 colleges have developed credit policies .**



Visit [www.collegeboard.org/apcapstone](http://www.collegeboard.org/apcapstone) for the latest list of colleges with credit policies for AP Seminar and/or AP Research.

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**Questions???**

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