

Syllabus: A.P. Research

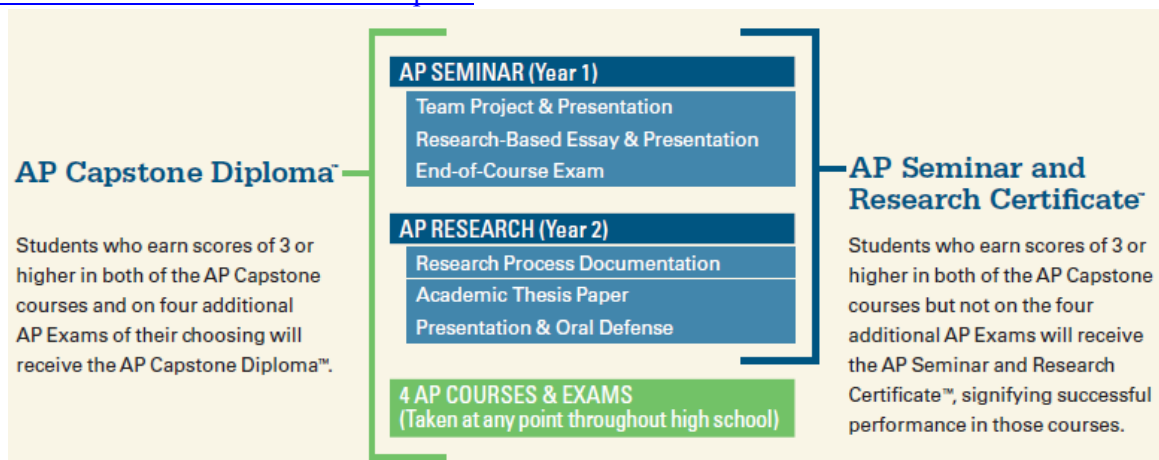


COURSE DESCRIPTION

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 year-long research-based investigation to address a research question. In the AP Research course, students further their skills acquired in the AP Seminar course by understanding research methodology; employing ethical research practices; and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information as they address a research question. Students explore their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of the development of their scholarly work in a portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4000-5000 words (accompanied by a performance or exhibition of product where applicable) and a 15-20 minutes presentation with an oral defense. AP Research is a yearlong course; AP Seminar is a prerequisite.

AP Research is the second of two courses in the AP Capstone™ program. AP Seminar is the first course and is a pre-requisite. If you earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of your choosing, you will receive the AP Capstone Diploma™. This signifies outstanding academic achievement and attainment of college-level academic and research skills. Alternatively, if you earn scores of 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research only, you will receive the AP Seminar and Research Certificate™.

[College Board's Course and Exam Description](#)



MATERIALS

This is a skills course rather than a content-based course and the class gets to decide many of the topics, so there is not a typical textbook. Instead, students will be reading several articles and excerpts selected by the teacher, other students, and themselves. While some of these may be physical copies, printed out and distributed, most will be distributed electronically. Use of the class' Teams site and linked ClassNotebook is critical for receiving these documents.

In addition, the following books may be checked out to each student to assist with the research and writing process. This will be treated the same as other district-issued textbooks. Students are financially responsible for all books issued by CHS. Textbooks may not be left in classrooms and teachers are not responsible for the whereabouts of your book. The copy which was issued must be turned in at the end of the course. You will not receive credit for turning in another student's book and may not turn in replacement books. The cost of replacement will be assessed to any student that fails to turn in the book they were issued or turns in a damaged book:

Palmquist, Mike (2015). *The Bedford Researcher* (5th ed.). Bedford/St. Martin's.

Jamison, Jennie (2013). *Understanding Research Methods in Psychology* (2nd ed.) Widsom Quest.

TEAMS: We will use Microsoft TEAMS this year for our primary communication. This is where we will have class meetings, communicate, post and turn in assignment, etc. In TEAMS there is a Class Notebook tab that contains much of the course material and information you will need. On occasion you will be directed to other sites and apps via instructions in TEAMS. All students have the option of checking out a district-owned Microsoft Surface tablet. I recommend doing this because this device will have all necessary software installed and be compatible with what we do in class. If choose to use your own device, you have access to a district-purchased Microsoft 360 account that you can put on 5 devices.

AP Classroom: AP Classroom is created by CollegeBoard. You will have to join my course through the URL below in order to get an AP exam in May as well as access to the valuable resources, including required assessments. <https://myap.collegeboard.org/>

Communication: It's best to communicate during our class period or before/after class. When that is not possible, you may message me in TEAMS, email me at reedert@fultonschool.org, or schedule a meeting during my Office Hours, which are 7:40am-8:40am.



COLLEGE BOARD NATIONAL AP EXAM

A student's College Board score for AP Research is based entirely on the paper and presentation the student does spring semester. Therefore, there is no exam during the AP testing window for AP Research.

AP Research Through-Course Performance Task — 100% of AP Research Score		
Component	Scoring Method	Weight
Academic Paper (4,000 to 5,000 words)	College Board scored	75%
Presentation and Oral Defense (15 to 20 minutes total for both the presentation and the three or four questions from a panel of three evaluators that follows).	Teacher scored	25%



GRADING POLICY

According to Fulton County Policy, the following scale is used:

90-100 = A
 80-89 = B
 70-79 = C
 BELOW 70 = F

The county will add 7 “honor” points to your grade at the end of the semester if your raw grade is a 70% or higher. Although this will not show up in Home Access Center, it will be reflected on your transcript and report card.

If at the end of the semester, a student has 20% or more of their assignments marked as Incomplete, they will not receive credit for the course, regardless of their current average.

I strongly recommend that parents sign up for Infinite Campus, the online system to monitor attendance and grades.



GRADE BREAKDOWN

Summative Assessments: Any assignments used in your course grade calculation will be in the Summative category.



LATE and MAKE-UP POLICIES

Attendance is critical for both the student's own benefit and the benefit of the class. **It is the STUDENT'S responsibility to come to the teacher regarding work missed during an absence.**

Summative Grades: A late Summative Grade will be marked Incomplete and lose 10 points for every day it is late, up to 50 points. Summative Grades must be made up by the end of the **next** unit's test; any assessment not made up by this deadline will remain a zero.

If you are marked present in any course and you have things due in my class that you don't turn in, those assignments will be considered late and marked Incomplete. You may always turn in assignments before their due date when you have a scheduled absence (religious reasons, field trips, athletic competitions, scheduled doctor's appointments, TAG, college visit, etc).

All make-up and recovery assignments must be turned in by before the last two weeks of the semester.



EXTENDED TIME

If you have approval from the administration to have extended time on tests, due to an IEP, 504, or similar accommodation, you will need to make arrangements with your teacher to complete a portion of your test outside of class time. You will be given a portion of the test at a time until you have completed it. You must finish the portion you are given before moving on to the next portion. You will not, in any circumstance, be permitted to see the entire test and then make arrangements to complete it at a later time.



EXPECTATIONS FOR WRITTEN WORK ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

All written assignments should:

- be in complete sentences using formal language
- follow conventions of grammar, usage and mechanics
- accurately cite sources used with discipline-specific requirements (i.e. MLA, APA, etc.).



Chattahoochee High School: Provision for Improving Grades

1. Students who complete a major assessment but fail to demonstrate mastery as evidenced by a grade below 75% on the major assessment may pursue an improvement opportunity to show proficiency. In the case of an honor code violation on a major assessment, the grade will stand as a zero with no eligibility

for recovery on that assignment. What is classified as a major assessment is determined within the content area; consult your course syllabus for details.

2. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities within 5 school days of being informed of the grade on the assessment in class. Students are allowed one attempt at recovery per major assessment category listed in the course syllabus. All recovery work must be completed 10 days before the end of the semester.

3. The grade on the recovery assignment will replace the original grade if the recovery grade is equal to or below 75%. If the recovery grade is above 75%, the original grade will be replaced with a 75%.



School Board Policy: Provision for Improving Grades

1. Opportunities designed to allow students to recover from a low or failing cumulative grade will be allowed when all work required to date has been completed and the student has demonstrated a legitimate effort to meet all course requirements including attendance. Students should contact the teacher concerning recovery opportunities. Teachers are expected to establish a reasonable time period for recovery work to be completed during the semester. All recovery work must be directly related to course objectives and must be completed ten school days prior to the end of the semester.
2. Teachers will determine when and how students with extenuating circumstances may improve their grades.



CHEATING AND PLAGIARISM

The Social Studies department considers academic integrity a top priority. ANY copying or sharing of answers on homework, major assessments, minor assessments, or exams will be viewed as cheating by the Social Studies Department. The only exception to this rule is if the teacher has explicitly stated that the work is a “cooperative learning” experience. If in doubt, ask the teacher.

Plagiarism is a form of cheating. It is defined by the American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language as “the act of stealing and using the work ideas or writings of another as one’s own.” Although the direct copying of another’s work is the most blatant example, any time a student takes another’s ideas and passes them off as their own, it is considered plagiarism. This includes “rephrasing” material without noting the source. If in doubt, ask in advance. The consequences for cheating or plagiarism on any assignment are outlined in the handbook: it will result in a zero grade on the assignment, an Honor Code Referral, and a phone call notifying the violator’s parent.

In addition to the school’s/district’s policy, the College Board has a particular policy that must also be followed.

AP Capstone Policy on Plagiarism and Falsification or Fabrication of Information

Participating teachers shall inform students of the consequences of plagiarism and instruct students to ethically use and acknowledge the ideas and work of others throughout their course work. The student’s individual voice should be clearly evident, and the ideas of others must be acknowledged, attributed, and/or cited.

A student who fails to acknowledge the source or author of any and all information or evidence taken from the work of someone else through citation, attribution, or reference in the body of the work, or through a bibliographic entry, will receive a score of 0 on that particular

component of the AP Seminar and/or AP Research Performance Assessment Task. In AP Seminar, a team of students that fails to properly acknowledge sources or authors on the Written Team Report will receive a group score of 0 for that component of the Team Project and Presentation.

A student who incorporates falsified or fabricated information (e.g., evidence, data, sources and/or authors) will receive a score of 0 on that particular component of the AP Seminar and/or AP Research Performance Assessment Task. In AP Seminar, a team of students that incorporates falsified or fabricated information in the Written Team Report will receive a group score of 0 for that component of the Team Project and Presentation.



EXTRA CREDIT

No grades will be given for non-academic assignments and no extra credit will be offered.



ELECTRONIC PRIVACY POLICY

No use of electronic devices to record or transmit class activities, resources, or information is permitted. This means that you may not use a tape recorder, camera, camera phone, camera pen or any other device to record or take pictures of students, teachers, classroom materials or resources, notes, etc. Doing so is a serious violation of the honor code and of the privacy rights of individuals and will be treated as such.



ATTENDANCE and TARDY POLICY

To help ensure success in this class, attendance is Mandatory. Students who are absent shall receive a grade of I (incomplete) for work missed for the day(s) or class periods(s) in which the absence(s) occur. Students shall be responsible for making up missed work for each absence.



DIGITAL LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

1. Students must use their FCS email account (studentID@fcstu.org) to log into Microsoft Teams.
2. Take care of personal matters, including restroom breaks, outside of class time.
3. Prepare a workspace that is conducive to learning. Minimize distractions and noise. Have your book, workbook, note paper, paper for graphs, and writing utensils at your workspace.
4. Enter the classroom before class time starts with your video on and your sound muted. Dress appropriately. You are welcome to blur the background.
5. Remain actively engaged for the entirety of the class. In some cases, instruction may end early so you can practice problems or ask questions.
6. Be an active learner by answering questions, taking notes, and solving problems when directed.
7. To ask questions, use the “raise hand” icon and unmute yourself when called upon. (After your question, lower your hand icon and mute yourself.)
8. Although we will be teaching and learning virtually, students need to understand that what you do in a virtual course are under the same constraints as if in an in-person classroom. You should approach virtual learning with the same formality, respect, language, and behavior as your do face-to-face learning.
9. Do not record the session in any way. When helpful, I will record instructional content and post for the class.
10. When class is over, be sure to Leave/Exit the meeting.



EXTRA HELP SESSIONS

I encourage all students to form groups and meet outside of school (in person or virtually) to discuss content topics and study for tests. I am available by appointment during my office hours 7:40am – 8:40am.



DISCIPLINE

The Chattahoochee Student Handbook and Fulton County's Code of Conduct & Discipline Handbook will apply.



FOOD and BEVERAGES

When we return to face-to-face instruction: Absolutely no candy, food, or beverages of any kind, except water, may be visible or consumed in the classroom. If a student has a medical condition that requires them to have food or beverages while in class, they must bring a note signed by the student's doctor to the school nurse, who will then notify the teacher of their condition. In this case, and in this case only, will exceptions be made. Food and beverages seen in class may be confiscated and thrown away and discipline may be issued.



PERSONAL POSSESSIONS

When we return to face-to-face instruction: All purses, totes, and bookbags must remain closed and on the floor throughout the period. They are not allowed to be on the student's desk and students cannot go through them during class. Similarly, the classroom is not the place for grooming, so students are not allowed to apply make-up, brush hair, and the like in class.

Students are allowed to use their personal technology devices, such as audio players, cell phones, and tablets, only when explicitly approved by the teacher. When doing so, students must follow the teacher's instructions regarding appropriate use of these devices, using them for educational purposes. If students do not comply with this policy, their personal devices may be confiscated and school discipline, including detentions and office referrals may occur.