

## AP Seminar Syllabus 2014-2015

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Welcome to AP Seminar.



### AP Seminar Course Description from the College Board:

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Ultimately, the course aims to equip students with the power to analyze and evaluate information with accuracy and precision in order to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.

### Textbook and Additional Readings

*Student's Guide to Writing College Papers (4<sup>th</sup> Ed.)*, Kate L. Turabian, University of Chicago Press, 2010.

Assignments and readings will be posted in class and on the class web page on a weekly basis.

### The Online Classroom

The NEHI AP Seminar Focus/Portal page is an integral part of this course. Any device with an internet connection will be able to access the class website through Portal. Students are expected to visit the class website on a daily basis. From this page students will download assignments and readings, participate in forum discussions, upload student PowerPoint lectures, link to online/YouTube lectures and videos, and access additional online reading.

### Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty is not only ethically wrong and unfair to students who work/study legitimately, but prevents you from learning the information necessary to do well on the AP exam.

**COLLABORATION vs. CHEATING:** *Collaboration is the discussion of material and assignments for the purpose of attaining clarification and producing deeper insight. Collaboration is encouraged in this class. When collaborating, all explanations and answers should reflect one's own thinking and ideas. Cheating is the division of the assignment designed to limit how much work one student must do; cheating is also the acquisition or providing of one's individual work to be replicated by another. Work that is replicated will receive a "0" for both the student that acquired and provided the assignment.*

### Grades

Your grade will be by a point system (in other words each assignment, test, presentation, etc, is given a point value and all points are averaged together) final grades will be determined as follows:

A- 90%-100%; B- 80%-89%; C- 70%-79%; D-60%-69%; F-59%-below

### AP Test

The AP Seminar Assessments are unlike anything in any other AP course. This new model of learning and assessment is on the cutting edge of AP course development and revision.

Your AP score in AP Seminar will be based on a three part assessment that will take the entirety of second semester to complete.

- **AP Seminar Performance Assessment Task I: Team Project and Presentation- 25%**
- **AP Seminar Performance Assessment Task II: Individual Research-Based Essay and Presentation- 35%**
- **End-of-Course Exam (3 Hours)- 40%**