

AP Capstone Diploma Program Policies

Plagiarism and Falsification or Fabrication of Information

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 or AP Research performance task. In AP Seminar, a team of students that fails to properly acknowledge sources or authors on the Team Multimedia Presentation 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 or AP Research performance task. In AP Seminar, a team of students that incorporates falsified or fabricated information in the Team Multimedia Presentation will receive a group score of 0 for that component of the Team Project and Presentation.

Participation

Schools must submit an online application and be approved to join the AP Capstone Diploma™ program. Only students whose schools offer the AP Capstone Diploma program can enroll in AP Seminar or AP Research and submit performance tasks in AP Seminar and AP Research and/or take the AP Seminar End-of-Course Exam. Homeschooled students, homeschool organizations, and online providers are not eligible to participate in AP Capstone™.

Prerequisite

Students must first 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 2 in AP Seminar are still eligible to enroll in AP Research, but they may need additional support and guidance during the course.

Rescoring

AP Seminar and AP Research performance tasks, as well as the AP Seminar End-of-Course Exam, consist of free-response questions, academic papers, or presentations, and therefore aren't rescored.

Students can get their AP Seminar End-of-Course Exam Free-Response booklets for a fee. No comments, corrections, or scores are included. Booklets for exams for which sources aren't released on the College Board website (for example, late-testing exams) aren't available.

Score Withholding and Cancellation

If a student chooses to withhold or cancel their score for AP Seminar or AP Research, the entire AP Seminar or AP Research score, including the end-of-course exam and performance tasks, is withheld or canceled. If a student submits any of the performance tasks in AP Seminar or AP Research as final in the AP Digital Portfolio or takes the AP Seminar End-of-Course Exam, they'll receive a final AP score unless they cancel it.

Accommodations for Students with Disabilities

For AP Seminar and AP Research, students with documented disabilities may be eligible for accommodations for through-course assessments (performance tasks) and the end-of-course exam for AP Seminar. For information about requesting an accommodations approval, go to collegeboard.org/apssd (<https://www.collegeboard.org/apssd>) or contact College Board Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) at 844-255-7728 or 212-713-8333.

Student Extended Absence and Performance Tasks

General Recommendations:

In the event that a student experiences an unavoidable and extended absence from school and isn't able to participate in the AP Capstone performance tasks (AP Seminar: Team Project and Presentation, Individual Research-Based Essay and Presentation; AP Research: Academic Paper, Presentation and Oral Defense) or any individual components of these tasks, the school/teacher should be as accommodating as possible, using technology or other means that allow the student to participate in the entire task or one or more of its components. If the student is unable to participate, for example, in the entire Team Project and Presentation or is unable to complete one or more components of either of the two performance tasks, College Board recommends one of the following options:

1. Continue in the course and have their completed tasks (or components) scored taking whatever AP score is earned. For example, if an AP Seminar student is unable to participate in the Team Project and Presentation, the student could choose to complete the Individual Research-Based Essay and Presentation and the end-of-course exam and accept the AP score earned from these two completed assessments. (In this scenario, the teacher would remove the student from the team, and the student would receive a score of 0 for any assessment components not completed.); or
2. Continue in the course and then cancel their scores by completing the AP Score Cancellation Form by the published deadline (usually by mid-June). For example, if a student is unable to participate in the AP Seminar Team Project and Presentation, they may complete the other performance task and if the student doesn't think their performance on the Individual Research-Based Essay and Presentation and end-of-course exam will earn a score the student wants to keep on record, they may cancel the score; or
3. The student may elect to drop the course altogether and consider re-enrolling the following academic year. An AP Research student who doesn't submit an Academic Paper is ineligible to receive a score on the Presentation and Oral Defense and may elect to drop the course and re-enroll the following academic year.

College Board renders the aforementioned recommendations in an effort to ensure that all AP Capstone Exams and courses are administered under standardized conditions and to prevent any student from receiving an unfair advantage on the AP Capstone course and exam. Such recommendations should be enforced by participating schools, their personnel, and their students to the extent feasible and in accordance with each school's current policies and procedures applicable to such situations.

Considerations for AP Seminar:

- If the student is unable to complete the Individual Research Report component of the AP Seminar Team Project and Presentation, the student would be ineligible to receive a score for the Team Multimedia Presentation because the presentation is dependent on all team members' individual research. As a result, the student would receive no score for the entire Team Project and Presentation. If a student is in the process of completing the Team Project and Presentation, and they drop out of the group in the middle of the performance task, the remaining group members should receive scores based on the active members in the group.
- A student with extended absences may be removed from an AP Seminar team without consequence for the other students on the team, provided that all task instructions are followed to ensure completion of the Team Multimedia Presentation. However, teachers should attempt to accommodate students with extended absences as much as possible, using technology or other means to encourage participation, before considering dropping a student from a team.
- Students who don't complete the Individual Written Argument aren't eligible to receive scores in the Individual Multimedia Presentation or the Individual Oral Defense.
- For a student to receive an AP Seminar score, an exam must be ordered for them and that student must take the AP Seminar End-of-Course Exam. Students who submit any performance tasks as final but don't take the AP Seminar End-of-Course Exam won't receive an AP Seminar score.
- It's acceptable for an AP Seminar student who hasn't completed one or more AP Seminar Performance Tasks to take the end-of-course exam.
- Students must first 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 2 in AP Seminar are still eligible to enroll in AP Research but might need additional support and guidance during the course.

Considerations for AP Research:

If an AP Research student is unable to complete the Academic Paper, the student would be ineligible to receive a score for the Presentation and Oral Defense because it is dependent on the research in the Academic Paper.

Retaking AP Seminar and/or AP Research

AP Seminar:

Students may retake AP Seminar; however, they may not resubmit the work they produced in previous AP Seminar courses as part of their through-course assessment(s).

Students who retake AP Seminar must complete all performance tasks and the End-of-Course Exam; individual component, task, or exam scores from previous years can't be applied.

AP Research:

Students may retake AP Research; however, they may not resubmit the work they produced in previous AP Research courses as part of their through-course assessment(s). Students who retake AP Research must complete the Academic Paper and Presentation and Oral Defense on a new research topic; individual component scores from previous years can't be applied.

Student Transfer Policy

The following protocols should be followed for students who transfer from one school to another.

From an AP Capstone School to Another AP Capstone School:

A student who is enrolled in an AP Capstone course and who transfers to another AP Capstone school may continue to participate in the AP Capstone course at their new school, provided the new school is offering the course. If a student transfers during the academic year, the new school should make every effort to capture the work previously completed by the student before the transfer.

From an AP Capstone School to a Non-AP Capstone School:

A student who is enrolled in an AP Capstone course and who transfers to a school that doesn't offer the program may not continue to participate in the AP Capstone course. At this time, schools that aren't authorized to offer AP Capstone courses cannot accommodate students who may have been enrolled in an AP Capstone course prior to their transfers.

From a Non-AP Capstone School to an AP Capstone School:

A student who isn't enrolled in an AP Capstone course and who transfers to an AP Capstone school may begin to participate in an AP Capstone course, at the discretion of the new school. The time in the school year when the transfer occurs may play a role in

determining whether the student is eligible to participate in an AP Capstone course, given the nature of the through-course assessments.

Note: Instructions for indicating transfer students in AP Registration and Ordering are included in Part 1 of the AP Coordinator’s Manual (<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/ap-coordinators-manual-part-1-2020-21.pdf>). The manual also includes detailed information about exam fee policies related to transfer students.

Not a student? Go to AP Central (<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org>) for resources for educators

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