Assignment: AP Capstone Portfolio—AP Seminar Requirements (and Initial Research Profile Reflection)

# Purpose

The College Board—as part of the general expectations of *AP Capstone*—expects students to keep thorough process portfolios for each year of the program. Over the course of both years, students will have amassed substantial notes, reflections, proposals, outlines, drafts, and presentation materials which will require organization and upkeep. Portfolio-keeping also provides students with a physical relic of understanding from which to reflect on personal development.

# Digital Set-up

Already created for students are general portfolio folders in Google Classroom, named for each student and year of program entry (Last name, First name Year). These folders will be shared (with editing capabilities) with each student accordingly. Within this portfolio, students will create the following infrastructure:

* [Folder 1] AP Seminar Practice Work
* [Folder 2] Task 1, Collaborative Research
* [Folder 3] Task 2, Individual Research
* [Folder 4] AP Research Project (to be used in year two only)
* [Folder 5] Formal Reflections

## Folder 1: AP Seminar Practice Work

This first folder will house all formal practice works from Modules 1-7 of AP Seminar. Teachers will provide students with the proper format for submission and document labeling prior to submission. Those should reflect within the organization of this folder, as well.

## Folder 2: Task 1, Collaborative Research

This folder will hold all research, notes, and official submissions for Module 8, high-stakes Task 1. Students will create additional folders here—to organize Task 1—corresponding to the following:

* Research Notes [holds all unofficial, unstructured notes and saved articles, and informal process reflections]
* IRR Process [holds all proposals, annotated bibliographies, and drafts]
* Collaborative Presentation Work[holds response papers, collaborative statements, presentation slides, and oral defense preparation]

## Folder 3: Task 2, Individual Research

This folder will hold all research, notes, and official submissions for Module 9, high-stakes Task 2. Students will create additional folders here—to organize Task 2—corresponding to the following:

* Research Notes [holds all unofficial, unstructured notes and saved articles, and informal process reflections]
* IWA Process [holds all proposals, annotated bibliographies, and drafts]
* Presentation Work[holds presentation slides and oral defense preparation]

## Folder 4: AP Research Project

Folder 4 will be further enumerated in year 2 of the program.

## Folder 5: Formal Reflections

This last folder will hold formal reflections, including periodic self-evaluations (quarterly or per semester), Task Reflections, and End-of-course Reflections. This will also be the folder for the first submission: the initial Researcher Philosophy Reflection, detailed below:

Begin by providing a self-introduction with a focus on your personal worldview—consider such things as your cultural background, values that have been instilled in you via family, environment, school, etc., what your beliefs about knowledge and understanding are, and how you explore the world. Then, discuss how those beliefs, values, etc. play into your areas of personal, academic, and future career interests.

Then, consider how your views manifest a specific approach to those personal, academic, and future career interests in addressing the following questions:

1. In what ways do you gather data or information in order to 'know' or 'understand' something in those areas of interest?
2. How do you prove (or accept proof) of a truth in these areas of interest? In other words, what is 'quality' work in these areas?
3. Do you believe that one 'way of knowing' is better (or more preferred or justified) than others? Justify your thoughts here.
4. What kinds of biases do you hold, and how will you work to ensure that they do not impact an objective approach to inquiry in your areas of interest?

Finally, reflect on areas of strength and how those strengths will become an asset to what you know about this program at this time. Also, reflect on areas of weakness and how the program can help you develop on these weaknesses. Then, discuss areas of interest, CTE skills, pathways, etc., that may become avenues of research for you in this program.

Please complete the above using organized paragraphs and proper academic language, tone, and grammar. Submissions should be consistently in proper style guide format (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc., per teacher preference) around 500 words upon completion.

Students will submit the above reflection in the given folder for progress check by the deadline.