

AP Capstone | AP Research
Summer Assignment 2022
50 points

This summer you should prepare an informal source log as you continue to explore ideas for your research project. You will be provided with a template that you can use to record this information, and your complete log (with at least five sources) will be due on the first day of class in the Fall.

You might elect to pursue one of the Research Questions from your AP Seminar Final, or perhaps you want to pivot to a new Research Question that is derived from that previous work. Alternatively, maybe you want to forge a path in a new direction. You might even desire to pursue sources for multiple research questions – that would be fine, too.

The sources that you record on your log should be new sources, different from the sources that you found for your AP Seminar Final. It is also important that you focus on scholarly sources. Remember the skills that you cultivated in AP Seminar!

Often researchers find it productive to go “question chasing.” If you are question chasing, you are letting the formation of questions inform and guide the research process. Concretely, if a question arises as you read a source, you would hunt for research on that new question after finishing the original source. As the shampoo bottle says, “rinse and repeat!” If you should discover a question that seems to have no existing research, then you might have discovered real treasure: the vaunted “Research Gap.” Your AP Research project must be situated in precisely such a gap.

While you are not expecting to discover a Research Gap this summer, the purpose of this assignment is to *prepare* you to make the discovery. The only way to really know for sure if there is a gap in the existing research is to read as much of the research as possible. Indeed the Research Gap refers to a gap in the body of knowledge in an entire *field* and not just a gap in *your* personal knowledge.

[Here](#) is a link to the required template for your source log. You will submit this digitally in August; there is no need to print.

If you have questions about this assignment, please [contact](#) Dr. DiGeorgio.

Happy researching!

- Mrs. Paulus and Dr. DiGeorgio