

**AP CAPSTONE-SEMINAR**  
**SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS**

Due Date: The first day of class

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Welcome to AP Seminar (part 1 in the AP Capstone diploma program)

“AP Seminar is **an interdisciplinary course that encourages students to demonstrate critical thinking, collaboration, and academic research skills on topics of the student's choosing**. To accommodate the wide range of student topics, typical college course equivalents include interdisciplinary or general elective courses.” (Definition taken from College Board)

AP Seminar is founded on the QUEST concept (Big Ideas)

Question and explore

Understand and analyze arguments

Evaluate multiple perspectives

Synthesize ideas

Team, transform and transmit

To prepare for our class the upcoming school year in AP Seminar, you will have two assignments that will give you an idea on beginning the process of asking questions and creating questions, research and presenting a topic to an audience.

**Assignment 1: Read and annotate the three articles**

**1. Millions of youths worldwide strike for climate action: By Brady Dennis and Sarah Kaplan, Washington Post**

**2. How John Lewis fuses new and old tactics to teach civil disobedience: By Katie Mettler, Washington Post**

**3. Research offers mixed messages on social media's effects on adolescents: By Andrea K. McDaniels, Baltimore Sun**

**Directions: What to do? This can be down on a word document for example**

1. You must read all three articles.
2. Write down questions, and make sure to go back so you can answer them.
3. Reference/circle/highlight unfamiliar words and do not forget to look them up.
3. Add your **perspective to the argument** (be as detailed as possible I have added the definitions below)
4. Summarize: Add your summary at the end of the article.
5. Create a “journal entry” for each reading where you write about key points, connections you can make and any other “outside” source that you would want to add. **If you decide to use any other source, make sure to use MLA works cited page Purdue Owl Writing Lab is very useful**

[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/mla\\_works\\_cited\\_page\\_basic\\_format.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_works_cited_page_basic_format.html)

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**AP Seminar Glossary term that you will need to know and also these terms will help you with your reading analysis Assignment 1**

*Argument — A claim or thesis that conveys a perspective developed through a line of reasoning*

*Line of reasoning — Arrangement of claims and evidence that leads to a conclusion*

*Perspective — A point of view conveyed through an argument*



**Young people from more than 150 countries skipped school in solidarity on Friday, September 20, as part of another series of global climate protests urging world leaders to act more aggressively to combat climate change.**

**Friday's protests began to unfold in Australia, where an estimated 300,000 young people in Melbourne, Sydney and elsewhere took to the streets. Similar scenes soon began to unfold in towns and cities across the globe, from small island nations such as Kiribati to teeming cities such as Mumbai. Protesters gathered in small groups in parts of Africa and in swelling masses in European capitals.**

**In London, thousands marched passed 10 Downing Street and the Houses of Parliament, some holding aloft signs that read "Winter is NOT coming" and "I'm taking time out of my lessons to teach you."**

**Martha Lickman, a 13-year-old Londoner, clutched a sign that read "Oceans are rising and so are we."**

**"We're doing our bit, eating less meat, using less plastic," she said, "but it's still on the government to do something."**

**Outside Washington D.C., students at Montgomery Blair High School in Silver Spring, Maryland, walked out of class Friday morning, prepared to link up with other protesters near the Capitol later in the day.**

**Police escorted students on a 50-minute walk to the nearest Metro station for the ride into the District of Columbia. Maddie Graham, age 16, gripping a red-and-white megaphone, shouted with hundreds of her classmates:**

**"Whose future?!"**

**"Our future!"**





**Image 2. A youth sits in a tree to get a better view as he joins a thousand other protesters to demand action on climate change, Nairobi, Kenya, on September 20, 2019. Photo by: Ben Curtis/AP**

**Despite a monumental turnout that stretched across every continent, it remains unclear whether the high-profile demonstrations can fundamentally alter the global forces contributing to climate change and compel elected leaders to make the difficult choices necessary to halt the world's warming. But transformative change is precisely what those behind Friday's marches have demanded — including a swift shift away from fossil fuels toward clean energy, halting deforestation, protecting the world's oceans and embracing more sustainable agriculture.**

**The strikes came three days before world leaders were set to gather at the United Nations on September 23 for a much-anticipated climate summit. U.N. Secretary General António Guterres has insisted that countries bring with them promises of real action such as vowing to reach net zero emissions by 2050, scaling back fossil fuel subsidies and halting construction of coal-fired power plants.**

**"I told leaders not to come with fancy speeches, but with concrete commitments," Guterres told reporters last week.**

**The summit will offer a key test of whether the world's nations, which came together to sign the Paris climate accord in 2015, can actually muster the resolve to slash carbon emissions as rapidly as scientists say is needed to avoid the worst effects of climate change.**

**Looming over the proceedings will be the increasing pressure from a generation of youth who are demanding that leaders take the problem more seriously — and act more swiftly. The Friday demonstrations came more than six months after hundreds of thousands of students staged a similar coordinated effort to demand urgent action on climate change.**

**Among the largest of the protests was likely the one in New York that was led by 16-year-old Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg, who testified before Congress last week that nations must take "unprecedented" actions to cut their carbon emissions in the next 10 years.**

**"I am submitting this testimony because I don't want you to listen to me," she said. "I want you to listen to the scientists. And I want you to unite behind the science. And then I want you to take real action."**

**Protesters in climate-conscious Germany planned more than 500 events to mark the global climate strike on Friday, including a large demonstration at Berlin's Brandenburg Gate. The demonstrations in Germany come as Chancellor Angela Merkel's government faces increasing public pressure to take bold climate action following heat waves and protests dubbed Fridays for Future throughout the country.**

**Germany's governing parties were holding a special meeting on Friday to finalize and unveil a new climate protection package.**

**In Moscow, Arshak Makichyan, a 24-year-old violinist who says he was inspired by Greta, staged a one-man protest after the government rejected his application to hold a group demonstration, the BBC reported. "I thought climate change was just science, but Greta had the right words to explain why it should worry all of us," he said. Russia, which has been hit hard by climate change, ranks as the world's fourth-largest emitter of greenhouse gases after China, the United States and India.**

**In Copenhagen, several thousand people, most of them high-school-age, gathered on a drizzly Friday in front of the city's grand copper-towered city hall before marching through the medieval old city. People flew Danish flags that were green and white instead of red and white.**

**Danish leaders pride themselves on adopting some of the world's most ambitious climate goals. The country has been seized by climate discussions, and the center-left Social Democrats won national elections in a campaign in which environmental issues were central. But for many of the people at the protest, the go-green effort isn't nearly enough.**

**"I hope the politicians hear us. They don't really seem to be doing anything," said Albe Gils, age 18, who skipped high school and came with two friends to the protest. "It's important that we talk about it now. In a few years we won't be able to do anything."**

**In the United States, strike organizers expected events in more than 1,100 locations in all 50 states. In San Francisco, protesters planned to rally in front of the offices of Bank of America, Amazon and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, a Democrat from California. In San Juan, Puerto Rico, they were marking the second anniversary of Hurricane Maria — a storm that scientists say was made more destructive by climate change. All of the strikers have expressed support for the Green New Deal, a sweeping Democratic proposal to combat global warming.**

**The strikes were planned largely by teenagers, in between soccer practices and studying for math exams, but a growing number of adults have begun to offer their support. New York and Boston public schools granted students permission to skip school for the strikes. For students in other districts, more than 600 physicians signed a "doctor's note" that reads, "Their absence is necessary because of the climate crisis." Several businesses, including Ben & Jerry's, Patagonia and the cosmetic company Lush, are closing their doors in solidarity.**

**In New York, organizer Olivia Wohlgemuth took to the subways in a last-minute effort to recruit protesters Thursday night, handing out fliers on a Brooklyn-bound train and urging people to attend Friday's rally near City Hall.**

**"This is the most important issue of our time," said Olivia, a high school senior and activist. "We need you to join us." Most of the passengers looked away, but a boy with a large backpack took off his headphones to listen and accepted a flier when she handed it to him. New York City Public Schools announced this week that students who skipped school to attend the strike would be granted an excused absence.**

**When the train pulled into the next station, Olivia dashed through the doors and into the next car.**

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**Article 2**

***How John Lewis fuses new and old tactics to teach civil disobedience***





*Representatives Elizabeth Esty and John Lewis occupy the House floor during a sit in.*

*By Katie Mettler, Washington Post*

*Published:06/28/2016*

*Word Count:1359*

*Text Level:12*

*The first time John Lewis staged a sit-in, the world was recorded in black and white.*

*There are photos of him back then, a young black man, the son of sharecroppers, a mentee of Martin Luther King Jr. He is pictured outside lunch counters, at press conferences, in handcuffs at the Jackson, Mississippi, jail. He is pictured after a beating, and he is pictured bloodied.*

*In the height of the civil rights movement, before Lewis was a congressman from Georgia, he trekked cross-country as one of the original 13 Freedom Riders. He was chairman of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. In Alabama, he marched from Selma to Montgomery and was beaten on Bloody Sunday as he attempted to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge with other marchers.*

*His experiences then, lessons learned about non-violent protest and civil disobedience, still shape his political career now. And at the age of 76, in a time of political memes and Internet mobs and the profusion of "slacktivism" in place of physical activism, Lewis is fusing the old with the new to educate the next generation about being a changemaker using platforms they understand: social media and comic books.*



*Lewis's Twitter and Facebook timelines are filled with the black and white photographs of his past, alongside the mugshots and portraits of the civil rights leaders that he worked alongside more than five decades ago. His posts are wildly popular, consistently garnering thousands of likes, shares and comments.*

*And in the written captions that accompany each photo, Lewis often repeats one mischievous phrase: "good trouble."*

*That's what the congressman said he was getting into Wednesday and into the early hours of Thursday morning when he and nearly 100 other Democratic lawmakers occupied the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives for 16 hours. They wore rainbow ribbons for the 49 victims of the Orlando mass shooting that re-awakened broad disagreements in the political world about gun rights and sparked renewed calls for action on gun control measures by the left. Led by Lewis, an initially small group of Democratic representatives congregated on the House floor's bright blue carpet, sitting cross-legged, shoulder to shoulder -- evoking memories of the sit-ins Lewis organized and was a part of decades ago. Democratic Sen. Elizabeth Warren brought Dunkin' Donuts. The cohort expanded with each passing hour. They broadcasted themselves live on Periscope.*

*Surrounded by about two dozen other lawmakers, Lewis began the sit-in Wednesday afternoon with a rousing speech that mimicked the style of his late mentor, Martin Luther King Jr.*

*"Sometimes you have to do something out of the ordinary. Sometimes you have to make a way out of no way," Lewis said. "We have been too quiet for too long. There comes a time when you have to say something, when you have to make a little noise, when you have to move your feet. This is the time. Now is the time to get in the way. The time to act is now. We will be silent no more. The time for silence is over."*

*It was a new-age sit-in, led by a veteran of the old-school tactic.*

*"Sitting there on the floor, I felt like I were reliving my life all over again," Lewis told reporters late Wednesday. "During the '60s the sit-ins started with three or four people, and they spread like wildfire. This will spread."*

*The unusual spectacle appeared to end early Thursday morning, after House Speaker Paul Ryan, a Republican, had called the sit-in a publicity stunt and the Republican-controlled House voted to adjourn until after the July 4 holiday. But as the sun rose over Washington Thursday, some Democratic lawmakers were still on the House floor and still vowing to continue their effort to force votes on gun-control measures.*

*At one point in their protest, Lewis praised his fellow occupiers.*

*"Thank you for getting in trouble!" Lewis said. "Good trouble."*

*That phrase spread rapidly on Twitter during the sit-in. It was used as a hashtag by people expressing solidarity, alongside the hashtags #NoBillNoBreak and #NoFlyNoBuy. Their tweets praised the genius of the saying, and the way Lewis and others had blended new age*

*technology with a peaceful political tactic that holds a sanctified place in American history and culture.*

*What makes the phrase especially poignant is that it was not crafted as a viral marketing tool. Lewis has been saying it long before hashtags were a thing.*

*In an interview on CNN about an exhibit honoring his life at the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, Lewis said that as a boy growing up in Alabama, he'd ask his parents often about the signs across town designating bathrooms and drinking fountains for "whites only."*

*"That's the way it is," Lewis recalled his parents would say. "Don't get in the way, don't get in trouble."*

*But the boy was absorbing the words of civil rights activists. Something within him stirred.*

*"Dr. King and Rosa Parks inspired me to get in trouble. Good trouble," he told CNN. "And maybe, just maybe, this museum will inspire a new generation of young people to get in trouble, good trouble, necessary trouble. To make our country and make our world a better place."*

*One of the places he found that inspiration, to make "good trouble," was in the pages of the 1958 comic book "Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story." Lewis told The Washington Post in 2013 that the book, a colorful 16-page book on nonviolent protest, prompted him and many other student activists to join the fight.*

*"It was about the way of love," Lewis said. "We were beaten and arrested ... and that comic book inspired me to make trouble. But it was the good kind of trouble."*

*And so in 2013, exactly 50 years after the March on Washington, where Lewis was the youngest speaker and Dr. King delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech, the civil rights rabble rouser published a graphic novel of his own.*

*Titled "March: Book One," Lewis' book opens with the March on Washington and chronicles the death of Emmett Till, lunch counter sit-ins and church bombings through his eyes, co-written with staffer Andrew Aydin and illustrated by award-winning cartoonist Nate Powell.*

*"It's another way for somebody to understand what it was like and what we tried to do," Lewis told The Post. "And I want young children to feel it. Almost taste it. To make it real ... It's not just the words but the action and the drama and the movement that bring it alive."*

*And last year, when Lewis attended Comic-Con to support "March: Book Two," he did something a little extra to bring his experiences to life. Cosplaying as himself, beside people in capes and masks, Lewis wore a trench coat and backpack, just like he did at age 25. That year, 1965, he led 600 marchers peacefully to Selma, Alabama, and across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, where he was beaten with a night stick and suffered a fractured skull.*

*That day became known as Bloody Sunday, and the day Lewis thought he was going to die.*

*And then, in costume, Lewis led a pack of excited third-graders who'd come to meet history in flesh across the convention floor. They marched, just like he had 50 years before. He was much older and his fellow marchers much younger, but that moment embodied everything Lewis hoped to accomplish with his comic book.*

*"I felt very, very moved just by being with the kids," Lewis told The Post afterward. " ... it just felt special -- I was in the moment."*

*Early Thursday morning, after Republicans adjourned the House until July 5, Lewis linked that day in 1965, which he'd re-created at Comic-Con, with the protest on the House floor.*

*"Today, we've come a distance. We've crossed one bridge but we have other bridges to cross," he said. "... And we will continue to fight. A little more than 50 years ago, I crossed a bridge -- not just one time, but it took us three times to make it all the way from Selma to Montgomery. We have other bridges to cross."*

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### **Article 3**

*Research offers mixed messages on social media's effects on adolescents*



*Researchers and scientists are trying to figure out how social media use affects young people. So far, the evidence is mixed. Photo by: MCT*

*By Andrea K. McDaniels, Baltimore Sun*

*Published:06/15/2017*

*Word Count:1178*

*Text Level:12*

*When adolescent psychiatrist Dr. Drew Pate counsels patients or speaks to parenting groups, questions about social media use inevitably arise.*

*Parents wonder if their children's constant use of Instagram, Facebook or Snapchat is healthy. Teenagers talk about the pressure to post the perfect photo or compete with the pristine lives their peers present on the Internet.*

*"When you talk to parents and see kids in the office, we hear more and more about the potential damage being caused by social media outlets," said Dr. Pate, who works for Sheppard Pratt Health System. "I think almost any adolescent who is involved in any social media has probably had some negative effect from it."*



*Researchers and scientists still are trying to figure out how social media use affects young people. So far the evidence is mixed and there's no broad consensus on the long-term consequences of excessive social media use.*

*Studies have shown the around-the-clock world of social media takes a mental and emotional toll on some young people. It has been linked to increased anxiety, depression and decreased relationship skills. One study found social media can be more addictive than cigarettes and alcohol for some people. Social media also can have a positive effect, however. Some research has found that social media can be a resource for teens to find social support when they are struggling with life issues and that they can use the different online platforms as a way to express themselves. Some teens are able to build friendships and relationships through the interaction they have with others on the internet.*

*A study published earlier this year by the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine with support from the National Institutes of Health found that the more time young adults spent on social media the more likely they were to have problems sleeping and experience symptoms of depression.*

*Another study by the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health found that incidents of major depressive incidents have increased dramatically among teens, particularly among girls, and that cyberbullying may be playing a role.*

*At American University, researchers found a link between social media use and negative body image, which can lead to eating disorders. And in a recent survey of young people conducted by the Royal Society for Public Health in London, Instagram and Snapchat were found to be the worst for adolescents and their mental health. The poll asked 1,479 people aged 14 to 24 to rate social media apps on issues such as body image and anxiety. The survey report said young women, in particular, are bombarded with edited images that mask people's flaws and imperfections.*

*"This practice is contributing to a generation of young people with body image and body confidence issues," the report said.*

*Representatives for Instagram and Snapchat did not respond to requests for comment.*

*Teenagers are already self-conscious and vulnerable to what others say, said Pate, the Sheppard Pratt psychiatrist. They may start comparing their lives to those of people on social media. They may misconstrue comments people make on social media as directed at them when they are not. The social cues such as tone or facial expressions are not visible like they are in a live interaction, making it easier for teens to misinterpret what someone says.*

*"The problem with teenagers is they are much more in the moment and not as forward thinking as we get to be as adults," said Dr. Pate, pointing out that the human brain is not fully developed until about age 25.*

*One psychiatrist with the University of Maryland Medical System believes that excessive social media use should be designated formally as an addiction so that official guidelines on its use could be established.*

*"The more rapid and the more image loaded it is, the quicker and the greater the chance of an addiction," said Dr. Bankole Johnson, chairman of the University of Maryland School of Medicine's department of psychiatry and director of its brain science consortium research unit. "If you were gambling and you increase your frequency of gambling, the greater becomes the chance of becoming addicted to gambling."*

*But some experts warn against painting the impact of social media with broad brush strokes. And researchers point to studies that have found beneficial effects.*

*Another study by the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health found that social media helped teenagers who played video games excessively and suffered from symptoms of depression. Heavy gamers who had a network of friends on social media seem to be immune to the problems suffered by some who played the games a lot and didn't have similar social networks, said researcher Michelle Colder Carras, a post-doctoral fellow in the Bloomberg School's department of health.*

*"Engaged gamers play a lot but don't necessarily have problems with video game addiction, depression or anxiety," she said.*

*Carras said that care needs to be taken when making a direct link between mental health and social media use. She said the survey by the Royal Society for Public Health doesn't show that the social media caused anxiety and other issues. It didn't delve into whether the teenagers already had mental health problems or if those problems could have been linked to something else.*

*"They just went out and talked to young people about their feelings about the social media platform," she said.*

*Researchers with the National Center for Telehealth & Technology, one of the Department of Defense's Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury, said social media can help promote suicide prevention information, such as hotlines and support groups. But they said the overall negative and positive impacts that social media can have are not yet clear.*

*"More research is needed on the degree and extent of social media's negative and positive influences, as are evaluations of the effectiveness of social media-based suicide prevention programs," the researchers wrote in an analysis published in the American Journal of Public Health.*

*The Royal Society listed several suggestions it says could ease the effects of social media on the emotional health of teenagers. Sites like Instagram could highlight when people have digitally altered their image or post warnings about the dangers of too much social media use,*

*the group said. It also suggested that schools teach safe social media use and called for more studies to be conducted on how it affects the mental health of teenagers.*

*The University of Maryland's Johnson said social media-related emotional problems in teenagers are often detected when they have other problems, such as learning and behavioral difficulties.*

*Some teenagers might need to be weaned off social media completely if it is causing intense emotional issues, Dr. Pate said.*

*Others might need regulated or tightened security measures so they are only socializing with a select group of people. Parents can help by monitoring and limiting the amount of time their children spend on social media.*

*"It boils down to what the kids can manage and handle when it comes to the stress created by these sites," he said. "We want the kids to individualize their own approach."*

**Assignment number 2 (Remember if you have any questions feel free to contact me via e-mail)**

**Directions: I would like for you to create a “multimedia presentation” on what brings you joy. Reading, Writing, Music, Future aspirations, Family outings, etc.**

- 1. Your presentation should be at least 5 slides no more than 10**
- 2. Include any images, videos, quotes, etc.**
- 3. Make sure to prepare to present during the first week of school**
- 4. Cite any sources that you used for your project (refer to this cite)**  
**[https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research\\_and\\_citation/mla\\_style/mla\\_formatting\\_and\\_style\\_guide/mla\\_works\\_cited\\_page\\_basic\\_format.html](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_works_cited_page_basic_format.html)**