

AP Seminar Summer Assignment 2024

Congratulations on making it to sophomore year! You worked hard, and are ready for the challenge of the first class of the AP Capstone program, AP Seminar. While the course will build on many of the skills that you developed freshman year, there are also some new components that might seem unfamiliar to you. Additionally, it is important that we, as a class, stay cognizant of current debates on global issues. This summer assignment is designed to do just that. Please note there are two parts: Part 1 is due July 31, 2024 and Part 2 is due August 31, 2024.

Part 1: For part one of your summer assignment, determine two issues that you want to learn more about. These could have come to mind from something you learned last year, something you wish we learned more about in school, or something you read outside of school. If you are struggling, the following websites may spark ideas:

- <https://www.un.org/en/global-issues>
- <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>
- <https://www.procon.org/>

For each of these two themes, you must identify a real-world problem or issue, and convince the reader that this issue should be researched and discussed. For each issue, complete a 500 word response that answers the following:

- a. What is the issue?
- b. Why is it relevant?
- c. What are two competing perspectives on this issue?
- d. What is a solution to resolve this issue, and what are the limitations and implications of that solution.

You must cite at least two sources in your response (APA format) that you find and identify on your own, and will be submitted electronically. If you need help with APA, Purdue Owl is an excellent resource.

Part 2: You will be completing an argument analysis for two different perspectives on a particular issue. You must complete the following instructions:

1. Go to SIRS Issue Researcher and log in (bergenfield.org→virtual library→online database→ProQuest SIRS Issue Researcher)
2. Click on All Leading Issues and select any topic that interests you (I would avoid using the search button as it will not give you a side by side comparison of viewpoints).
3. When you click on a topic title, you will see a question and a side by side comparison of viewpoints. Choose two articles (one article on each side) that provide perspectives and arguments that disagree.
4. For **each article**, answer the following:
 - a. What is the main idea/thesis/argument of the author? (~100 words)

- b. Explain the author's line of reasoning by identifying the claims used to build the argument and the connections between them (250-300 words)
- c. Evaluate the effectiveness of the evidence the author uses to support the claims made in the argument. Is it credible? Is it reliable? (250-300 words)
- d. Include a Reference page (APA format). Simply click Cite from the article, copy and paste.

That means that you will be submitting 1000-1400 words for this assignment in total.

You will receive an invitation to the summer Google Classroom so please check your email. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Pro at jpro@bergenfield.org.