AP SEMINAR: SUMMER ASSIGNMENT & IMPORTANT INFORMATION

AP Seminar: Summer 2026 Assignment

Next year, we will complete three units of study during the first semester. Unit 1 will address the role of technology in K12 education, and your summer reading is aligned to our Unit 1 focus.

Unit 1: Technology in Education- What role should technology play in K12 education?

Please read the following book over the summer. You must read the entirety of the book by the first day of school. During the first week of school, you will write a reflection on the book during class.

- *The Anxious Generation: How the Great Rewiring of Childhood is Causing an Epidemic of Mental Illness*, Jonathan Haidt

Additional Information about AP Seminar:

AP Capstone: Remember, AP Seminar is the first course in a two-year sequence, known as AP Capstone. Since you are taking AP Seminar during your junior year, you will also take AP Research in your senior year. Taking both courses is a requirement.

Technology Access: All papers and presentations will be done digitally in AP Seminar. Students are required to have a school-issued laptop or other laptop/tablet device each day in class.

The Role of Generative AI: For College Board, your work will be run through TurnItIn.com, which includes an AI checker. Students are expected to authentically engage with sources by reading them on their own, without the use of generative AI. Students are also expected to write authentically, without the use of generative AI creating information for them or changing the structure or tone of their writing. Using generative AI tools, like ChatGPT and others, is prohibited.

First Semester Readings: For your knowledge and preparation, below are the books we will read for the subsequent two units. Before Units 2 & 3, you will also have to read a book, selected from the list below. Therefore, over the summer, you may want to get a head start on ONE reading from EACH of the two units below. AP Seminar is a reading and writing intensive course, so it would be to your benefit to select and read the books below over the summer. Nevertheless, reading these books over the summer is not required and reading the selections below will be built into the semester schedule.

Unit 2: Food- What constitutes authentic American cuisine?

Choose ONE book from the list of three choices below:

- *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of an All-American Meal*, Eric Schlosser
- *High on the Hog: A Culinary Journey from Africa to America*, Jessica B. Harris
- *Fortune Cookie Chronicles: Adventures in the World of Chinese Food*, Jennifer 8. Lee

Unit 3: Crime- How do perceptions & realities of American crime differ?

Choose ONE book from the list of three choices below:

- *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*, Michelle Alexander
- *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*, David Grann
- *Gang Leader for a Day: A Rogue Sociologist Takes to the Streets*, Sudhir Venkatesh