



Alpharetta High School

AP Seminar Summer Assignment



Summer Assignment Overview-

Welcome to AP Seminar! Please know that the two summer tasks outlined below are designed to introduce you to common course terminology, familiarize you with various news outlets, and engage you with the task of argument analysis.

Before you begin your summer work (*Task 1 and Task 2*), please take a moment to familiarize yourself with the course terminology listed below. Also, please take a moment to watch the [course video explaining “line of reasoning” \(LOR\)](#) and how we will use it in AP Seminar. If you have any questions about this assignment over the summer, please email Ms. Virginia Brown at brownv3@fultonschoos.org.

Course Terminology-

1. **Lens** - filter through which an issue or topic is considered or examined (i.e., political and historical, environmental, economic, social and cultural, artistic, scientific, futuristic, ethical)
2. **Perspective** - a point of view conveyed through an argument
3. **Argument** - a claim or thesis that conveys a perspective developed through a line of reasoning and supported by evidence.
4. **Bias**- a personal opinion, belief, or value that may influence one’s judgment, perspective, or claim
5. **Implication** - a possible future effect or result
6. **Limitation**- a boundary or point at which an argument or generalization is no longer valid
7. **Claims**- support the driving argument
8. **Evidence**- facts, statistics, expert opinions, anecdotes, and examples used to support an author’s claims, reasons, and overall argument.
9. **Credibility**- the degree to which a source is believable and trustworthy
10. **Relevance**- the quality of being directly connected, appropriate, or significant to the matter at hand. It measures how meaningful or applicable information is to a specific situation, topic, or person
11. **Line of Reasoning (LOR)**- A line of reasoning is a structured, logical sequence of claims, evidence, and analysis that leads to a specific conclusion. It acts as the logical framework of an argument. A strong line of reasoning is coherent, ordered, and clearly connects ideas to show *why* evidence supports a conclusion.

Task #1- News Article Analysis-

- **Select**- 5 separate articles from the different news outlets listed in the chart below. The articles you select must:
 - *be spread throughout 5 different weeks*
 - *be from the news outlet listed for the week (see chart below)*
 - *be argumentative (not informational, educational, or for entertainment)*
- **Read and Consider**- the articles carefully. For each article, be sure to identify the *main argument* and the *credibility* and *relevance* of the evidence that the author uses to support his/her argument.
- **Download** the [Task #1 weekly template document](#) provided
- **Type your response** to each of the questions for each of your 5 articles on the [Task #1 Weekly template document](#) provided. Please ensure your responses to each of the questions are full and robust- giving specific evidence and information and providing a thorough rationale.
- **Submit**- On the first day of school, you will digitally submit your completed document

Week	News Outlet
Week #1	National Public Radio
Week #2	Local news sites/ local papers - Appen Media or Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Week #3	The Week
Week #4	National News sites - USA Today or The Wall Street Journal

Task #2- Analyzing an Argument-

- **Download a copy** of [Task #2- Analyzing an Argument](#) and save it to your device.
- **Read and digitally highlight** the article in the following colors-
 - *Use PINK highlighter- to highlight the author's claims*
 - *Use BLUE highlighter- to highlight the evidence that the author uses to support her claims*
 - *Use YELLOW highlighter- to highlight the ways in which the author gives her sources credibility*
- **Type** your response to the Part 1, 2, and 3 activities that follow.
- **Submit-** On the first day of school, you will digitally submit your completed document