

Brunswick School Department

Cross Curricular

Grade AP Seminar

Adopted: June 2019

Course Overview

AP Seminar is a foundational course that engages students in cross-curricular conversations that explore the complexities of academic and real-world topics and issues by analyzing divergent perspectives. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles, research studies, and foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; They will also listen to and view speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; in addition to experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to synthesize information from multiple sources, develop their own perspectives in written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team. Large areas of study will include: Question and Explore, Understand and Analyze, Evaluate Multiple Perspectives, Synthesize Ideas, Team, Transform, Transmit.

Essential Understandings

- The ability to craft and communicate evidence-based arguments.
- Understand and analyze authors ideas, perspectives and arguments.
- Evaluate multiple perspectives and information with accuracy and precision.
- Narrow research motivated by personal interest and intellectual curiosity to draw conclusions and develop solutions.
- Evaluate the credibility and relevance of source material.
- Align methods of research with the purpose of inquiry.

Priority Standards and Performance Indicators

As this is a Cross –curricular course, it will touch on numerous Performance Indicators in Math, Science, Social Studies, and English. The emphasis will be defined by the direction of each student’s research, and as such are not listed here.

Related Maine Learning Results Guiding Principles

- A. A Clear and Effective Communicator
- B. A Self-Directed and Lifelong Learner
- C. A Creative and Practical Problem Solver
- D. A Responsible and Involved Citizen
- E. An Integrative and Informed Thinker

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Examples of Formative / Summative Assessments

Writing assessments
Independent research projects
Individual presentations
Team research projects
Team presentations
Tests
Exams

Sample Texts and Materials/Resources

- Resources depend on subject area selected for study by student.
- Resources will be selected taking into consideration diversity of perspective, gender, culture.
- Sample research texts:
 - Turabian, Kate L., Gregory C. Colomb, Joseph M. Williams, and the University of Chicago Press Editorial Staff. *The Student's Guide to Writing College Papers and Turabian Teacher Collaborative Topic Sheets*. 4th edition. University of Chicago Press.
 - Booth, Wayne C., Gregory G. Colomb, and Joseph M. Williams. *The Craft of Research*. 3rd edition. University of Chicago Press.
 - Upton, Matt, C. Michael Hall, and Kevin Cannon. *Information Now*. 1st edition. University of Chicago Press.