

## AP Seminar

Lori Wagoner

Teacher email: [lwagoner@wcpss.net](mailto:lwagoner@wcpss.net)

Teacher website: [loriwagoner.weebly.com](http://loriwagoner.weebly.com)

### Course Goals

Capstone Seminar “students develop and apply discrete skills identified in the learning objectives of the enduring understandings within the following five big ideas:

- Question and Explore
- Understand and Analyze Arguments
- Evaluate Multiple Perspectives
- Synthesize Ideas
- Team, Transform, and Transmit

Please refer to the accompanying handout for a more detailed look at what each of these elements entails

### Student Expectations

The Capstone Seminar course is designed for the motivated student who possesses a natural curiosity about the host of real-world problems that beg solutions.

- This course offers students the opportunity, individually and in collaborative teams, to
  - explore an array of issues,
  - the many facets of each discovered through an examination of specific lenses (economic, philosophical, futuristic, historical, environmental, political, cultural, social, artistic, scientific, ethical, etc.) that reveal how specific stakeholders offer differing perspectives.
- This course requires students to analyze the credibility of arguments and critique the specific lines of reasoning.
- From a variety of types of sources about the same issue, students will hone the art of divining and developing questions that lead to student-developed original, innovative solutions to specific problems that they propose in well-crafted, appropriately researched written arguments presented, in part, in multimedia format and defended in both collaborative and individual products.

## Middle Creek HS: AP Seminar Course Grading Policy

- Due to the unique and innovative structure of this course and its policies and guidelines determined by the College Board, the grades for this course may be different from those of traditional courses.
- Assessment categories are broken down into two divisions: major and minor. See the chart below for examples

Major 60%	<p>Such as but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ practice written AP exam questions</li> <li>→ a reflection journal kept throughout the year</li> <li>→ practice research papers and presentations</li> <li>→ Socratic discussions</li> <li>→ team work</li> <li>→ completing drafts</li> <li>→ revision/ editing</li> <li>→ research deadlines</li> <li>→ writing practice</li> <li>→ class/ team contributions</li> <li>→ presentation transcripts</li> </ul>
Minor 40%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ daily reflections and/or exit passes</li> <li>→ preparedness for class/ teamwork</li> <li>→ thoughtful participation in class activities</li> <li>→ meeting deadlines</li> <li>→ writing practice</li> <li>→ class/ team contributions</li> <li>→ presentation transcript drafts</li> </ul>
MCHS Late Work Policy	<p>Late work will be accepted for <b>maximum 80% credit</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● by week 5 of the quarter (for weeks 1-4),and</li> <li>● by the end of the quarter for weeks 5-9.--ie, One week after the interim.</li> </ul> <p><b>This applies only to homework, classwork, or projects.</b></p> <p>Dates: Sept. 29th (one week after interim)            Dec. 8th (one week after the interim)            February 23rd (one week after the interim)            May 11th (one week after the interim)</p>

## AP Seminar- College Board Score

\*The College Board awards the final score for AP Seminar based on the tasks listed below. Unlike other courses, however, this score will be determined by three tasks which are completed throughout the spring semester.

Remember that an AP Score is NOT the same thing as a GRADE for the work done in class. I'll explain more about this distinction in class.

\*Refer to the accompanying handout for more information about the specific breakdown of each task.

## Teacher Guidelines per the College Board

### Role of the Teacher

Please review the role of the teacher as outlined in the Performance Tasks Handouts that accompany this document.

\*\*The bottom line is that during the second semester, the performance tasks are elements of the final exam for AP Seminar. Just as the teacher cannot walk around the AP test and make suggestions to students, I cannot make suggestions on student work that is to be evaluated by the College Board for AP class credit. Please see me if you have questions about this policy.

## AP Capstone Plagiarism Policy (as per the College Board)

Both the College Board and Middle Creek High School take academic integrity seriously. The expectation is that all student work is original and done in accordance to parameters given in class.

Per the AP Seminar Course and Exam description:

"Participating teachers shall inform students of the consequences of plagiarism and instruct students to ethically use and acknowledge the ideas and work of others throughout their coursework. The student's individual voice should be clearly evident, and the ideas of others must be acknowledged, attributed, and/or cited.

A student who fails to acknowledge the source or author of any and all information or evidence taken from the work of someone else through citation, attribution, or reference in the body of the work, or through a bibliographic entry, will receive a score of 0 on that particular component of the AP Seminar and/or AP Research Performance Assessment Task. In AP Seminar, a team of students

that fails to properly acknowledge sources or authors on the Team multimedia presentation will receive a group score of 0 for that component of the Team Project and Presentation.

A student who incorporates falsified or fabricated information (e.g., evidence, data, sources and/or authors) will receive a score of 0 on that particular component of the AP Seminar and/or AP Research Performance Assessment Task. In AP Seminar a team of students that incorporates falsified or fabricated information in the Team Multimedia Presentation will receive a group score of 0 for that component of the Team Project and Presentation.”

This policy is central to the AP Seminar course. AP Capstone students conduct research with academic integrity.

I'm looking forward to a great year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Wagoner