

10th Grade Elective: AP Seminar taught by Mr. Blessman at JFKS since 2017

- Only Advanced Placement Course at JFKS open to tenth graders.
- Successful **AP Seminar** students who also complete **AP Research** in 11th grade can earn the **AP Capstone Diploma** upon graduation (*ASTERISK!*)
- Course has a focus on SKILLS, not content.
- Students learn to understand, evaluate, make, and present research-based arguments.



AP Capstone Overview

- **AP Seminar:**
 - Year-long course investigating real-world issues from multiple perspectives.
 - Students synthesize information from different sources, develop their own lines of reasoning in research-based written essays, and design and deliver oral and visual presentations, both individually and as part of a team.
- **AP Research:**
 - Students deeply explore an academic topic, problem, or issue of individual interest. Through this exploration, students design, plan, and conduct a year-long research-based investigation to address a research question.
- **AP Capstone Diploma:**
 - Students who score 3 or higher in AP Seminar and AP Research and on four additional AP Exams of their choosing receive the AP Capstone Diploma™.

AP Capstone Diploma

AP SEMINAR (Year 1)

Team Project & Presentation

Individual Research-Based
Essay & Presentation

End-of-Course Exam

AP RESEARCH (Year 2)

Academic Paper

Presentation & Oral Defense

4 AP COURSES & EXAMS
(Taken at any point throughout high school)



AP Seminar 2023-2024

- Open to Diploma students not enrolled in French or Spanish
- Meets three periods a week
- Opportunity to improve writing, reading, research, and presentation skills
- Work-load is substantial:
 - Regular reading, writing, and research assignments
 - Team Project and Presentation
 - Individual Research-based Essay and Presentation
 - End-of-year AP Exam in May 2024
- Successful completion of AP Seminar is a prerequisite for AP Research

