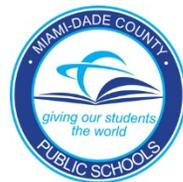


AP | Cambridge Capstone

Information Session



UNIVERSITY *of* CAMBRIDGE
International Examinations

Excellence in education

Looking for Something More?

Do you want to:

- Take your studies to the next level by digging deeper into topics that interest you?
- Examine issues and topics critically, from a global perspective?
- Build presentation skills?
- Develop a stronger background in both independent research and collaborative teamwork?
- Stand out in the college admission process by developing the skills that are becoming increasingly valued by colleges and universities?

“On the first day of class, the professor handed out the syllabus — and when I saw that we would have to write a 12-page paper, I freaked out ... I ended up doing fine in the course, but I definitely could have done better had I been better prepared for the sheer volume of writing that's required in college.

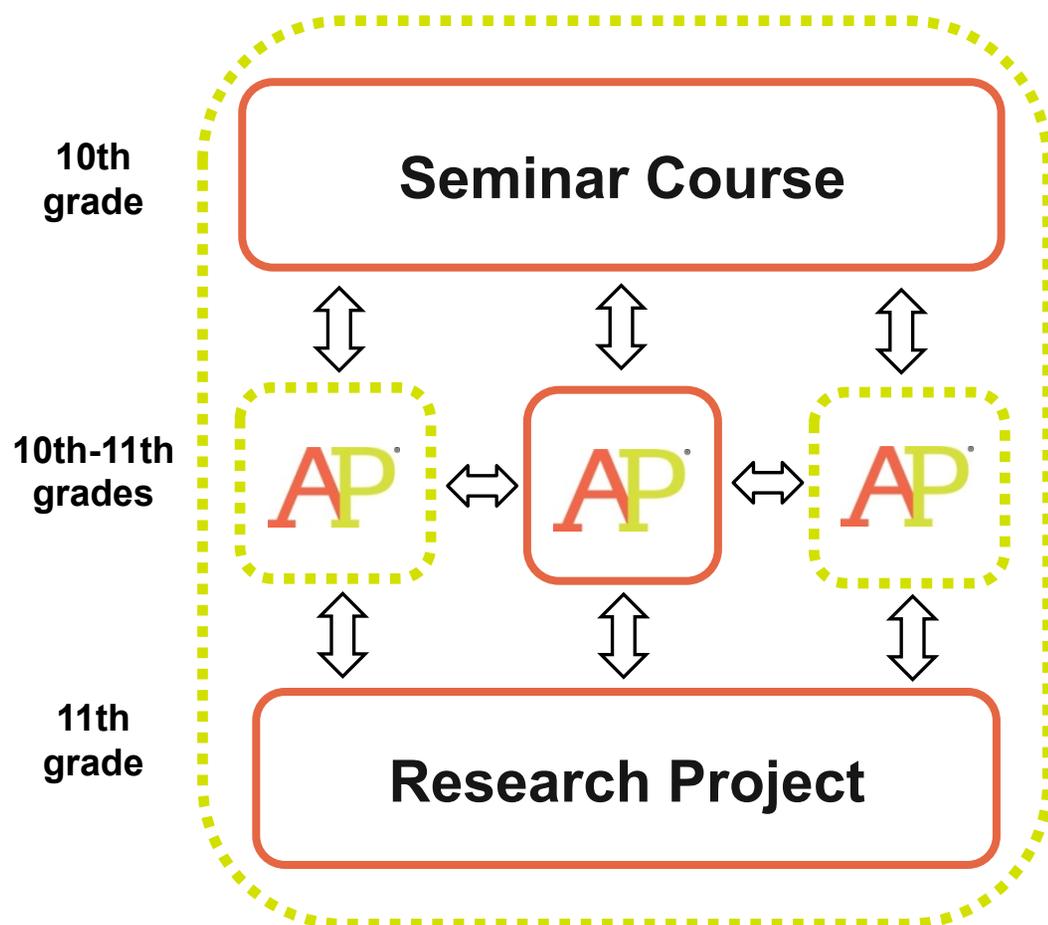
“Another challenge for me in transitioning to college was learning how to participate in class discussion about difficult texts and ideas. High school taught me how to annotate and take notes, but I think having more experience with seminar-style classes would have been useful for me in college. I have now acquired the skills of how to engage with other students, ask questions, and contribute to the exchange of ideas — but I wish I had more chances to develop these skills in high school.”

Charles Du, junior at
Princeton University

Available at **NMB Sr. High** this Fall: The AP | Cambridge Capstone Program

- Program jointly developed by the Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) and University of Cambridge International Examinations
- **North Miami Beach Sr. High** is one of approximately 15 pilot schools
- Two-year program that develops critical thinking skills and helps you make connections between your AP subjects while exploring issues of global relevance
- The program offers you the opportunity to earn a credential that:
 - Demonstrates your proficiency in college-level subjects
 - Showcases your research, communication, and collaboration skills
 - Gives you a new way to stand out in the admission process

The Program

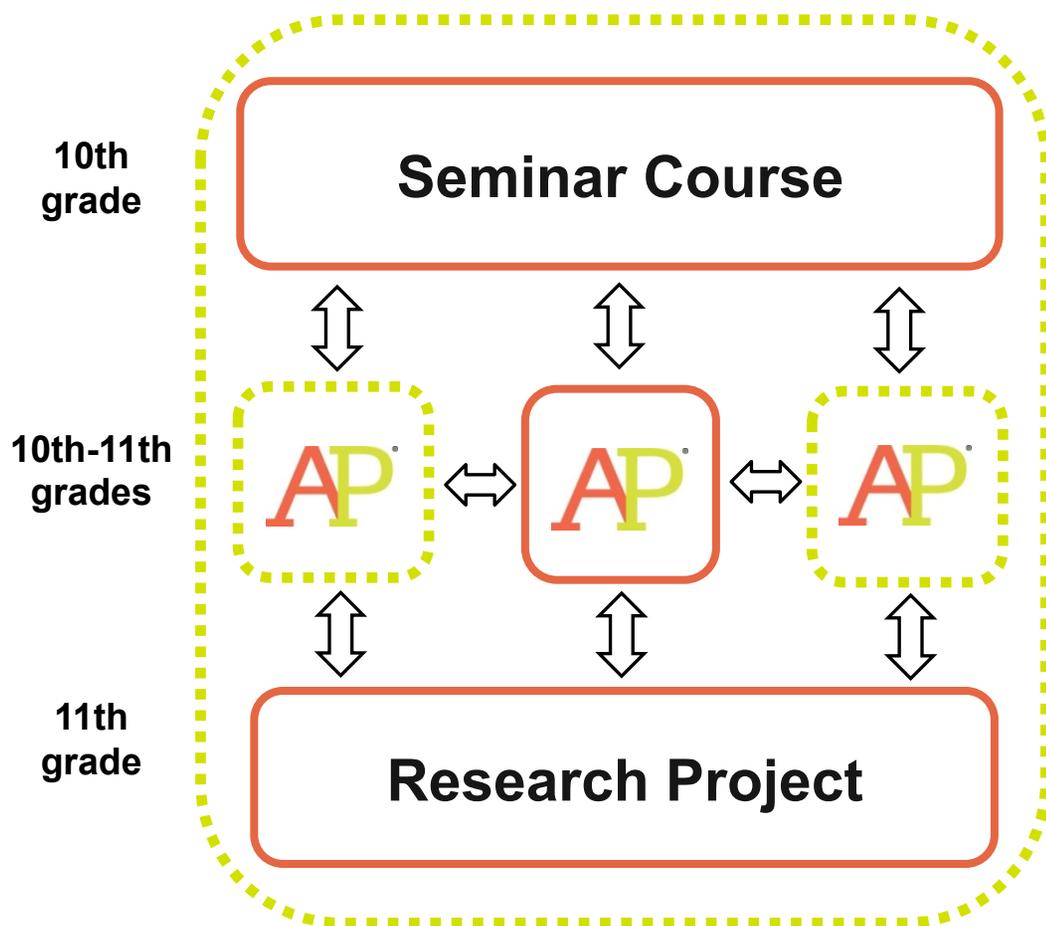


Seminar: A one-year program exploring specific topics from a global perspective; includes a written exam, team project, and presentation.

AP: Three or more AP courses and exams, including one “anchor” AP course in the 10th grade that will help connect themes and topics presented in the seminar course. All Capstone students will take the same anchor course.

Research: A year-long mentored research project that culminates in a ~20 page research paper that builds upon on your AP and/or seminar subjects.

Earning the Capstone Credential



To earn the AP | Cambridge Capstone Credential:

1. Earn a passing score on the Seminar Course;
2. Earn a passing score on the Research Project;
3. Earn scores of 3 or higher on a minimum of 3 AP Examinations.

The seminar course evaluates topics of global relevance through multiple thematic lenses.

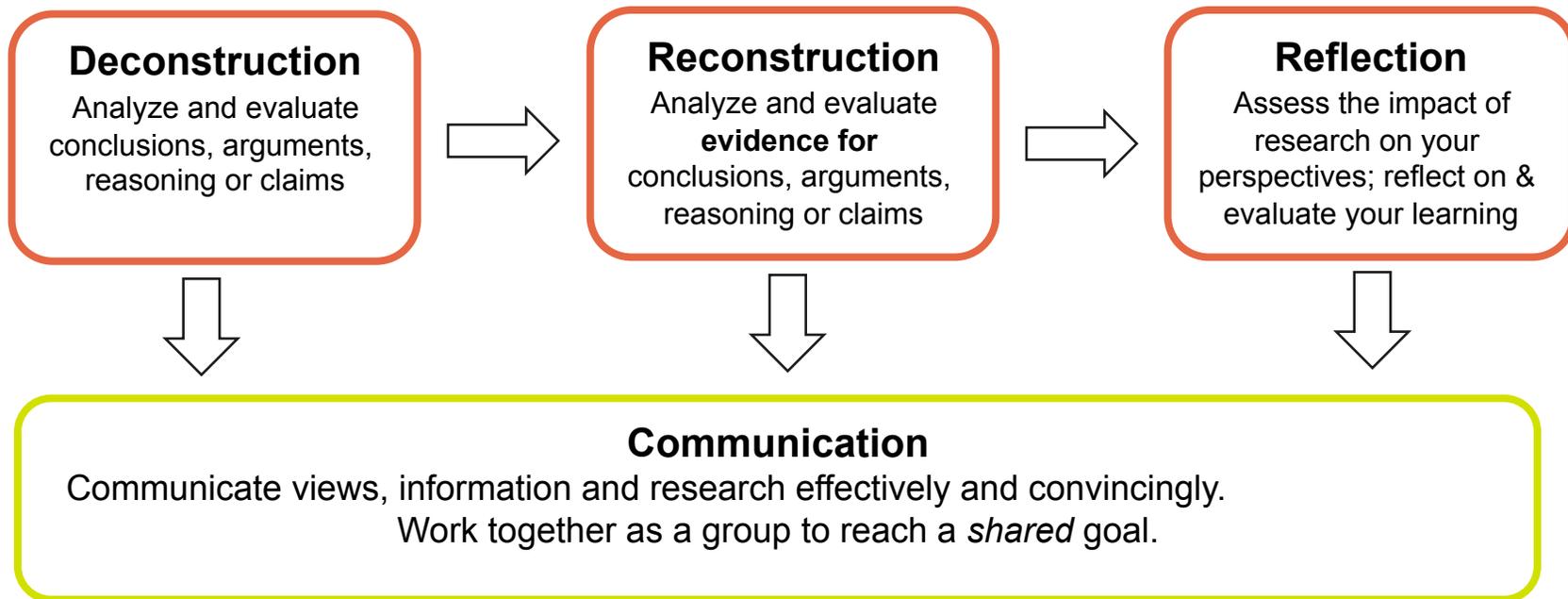
Sample Topics:

- Urbanization and the countryside
- Alternatives to oil
- Artificial intelligence
- Endangered cultures
- Global climate change
- Integration and multiculturalism
- Online and interactive communities
- China as an emerging superpower
- Endangered cultures
- Medical ethics and priorities
- Migration and work
- The economic role of women
- The ethics and economics of food
- The religious/secular divide



Seminar: The “Critical Path”

You’ll be encouraged to explore each topic by following the “critical path” shown in this diagram:



Develop ability to follow and deconstruct arguments and assertions, separate fact from opinion, and assess/evaluate the truth of claims.

Learn where to look for information, how to construct arguments, and how to assemble and handle evidence.

Seminar: Three Components

1. Exam:

- Assesses how well you've mastered the skill of inquiry
- Length: 1 hour, 30 minutes
- Full written exam; short answer and document-based questions

2. Team Project:

- Research a topic related to an issue of global importance
- You'll be evaluated on your individual contribution to the team, as well as on the work of the team as a whole

Seminar: Three Components

3. Presentation:

- You'll be given a problem statement and source materials to read
- Conduct your own research
- About four-fix weeks to prepare
- Deliver an individual multimedia presentation (15 minutes in length)
- Presentation can be in a variety of formats (e.g., PowerPoint, blog post, web pages)

How the Seminar is Graded

Component	Length	Weight
Exam	1 hour, 30 minutes	~50%
Team Project	Group report: 3000 words max Personal report: 2000 words max	~20%
Individual Presentation	15 minutes	~30%

NMB's AP Anchor Course

AP World History

- Example Complementary AP Courses
 - AP Human Geography
 - AP European History
 - AP Environmental Sciences

11th Grade: Research Project

- Individual, mentored research experience
- Based on question or hypothesis you develop
- Builds on your AP and seminar course subjects
- Work over the year divided into:
 - Literature review: Submit a fully referenced literature review
 - Analysis: Analyze and evaluate the evidence collected
 - Conclusion and reflection: From the analysis, draw a conclusion and reflect on the reasons for it
- Culminates in 4,500-5,000-word paper

The AP | Cambridge Capstone experience “promotes not only rigorous curricular content but also equips students with the independent research, collaborative teamwork, and 21st-century knowledge and skills essential to success in college and in today’s interconnected world ... The program combines the in-depth subject-matter study offered through AP courses and exams with the interdisciplinary global seminar curricula and assessment of research projects and presentations offered by University of Cambridge International Examinations.

The goals are:

- Engagement with rigorous college-level curriculum
- Promotion of a critical, questioning approach to information
- Development of disciplined and scholarly research skills applied to topics of global relevance.”

Members of the Cambridge Higher Education Advisory Council for the U.S.: Duke University, Florida State University, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Pennsylvania State University, University of Maryland, University of Michigan, University of Southern California, University of Texas at Austin, University of Virginia, University of Washington, Yale University

AP will be Developing Awareness of the Capstone Program over the Course of the Pilot

Actions:

- Convening groups of higher education admission and academic leadership
- Developing and publishing a list of colleges that will recognize Capstone on students' applications on collegeboard.org
- Working with individual colleges and universities to enrich understanding of potential uses of Capstone (i.e. toward Honors College admission, scholarship)

For More Information

To learn more and sign up:

- Complete the application & submit
 - Deadline: May 04, 2012
 - Submit Documents to Mrs. Volcy (Room 119)
 - Phone: 305-949-8381 ext.2345
 - Visit: <http://nmb.dadeschools.net/cambridge.html>
 - Email: sauguste@dadeschools.net

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