

## AP Research Summer Assignment 2022

Pre course assignments are due the first week of class.

AP Research is very comprehensive and moves quickly; these elements will greatly assist you in having maximum time to focus and refine your topic during the first two months of class.

Please keep all parts in a spiral notebook. If you prefer to work digitally, please print and hole punch to submit in a prong folder.

### Part I: The Course and the Responsibilities:

- A. Read the AP Research course overview at:  
<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/pdf/apresearch-course-overview.pdf?course=ap-research>. Write a paragraph on your understanding of the course and the Performance Task requirements that typically comprise the AP Research Exam.
- B. Brainstorm a Possible Topic
- Research possible topics you are interested in pursuing for your AP Research Academic Paper (4,000-5,000 words). Write down three to five possible topics.
  - Choose one of the issues you listed that you consider the one topic you may want to research. What is a current issue you are interested in?
  - Why are you interested in this issue?
  - Does this issue have more than one perspective you would like to examine? If so, what are the perspectives? Provide details about how each perspective relates to the topic.
  - What are your own personal feelings on this issue? Explain why you feel this way.

### Part II: Analyze an Exemplar Research Study:

What do you consider a significant research contribution of this century? For this task, begin by thinking of an academic discipline that interests you. From any field of science or math to the diverse arts and humanities or the various social sciences, select a discipline of study and do some digging.

What's an important conclusion (new understanding) that was determined in this field through research conducted within the last 20 years?

Find a scholarly study (Google Scholar is great for this) to examine and answer the following questions:

1. Who were the researchers involved in this study? What makes them credible?
2. What prompted this study? In other words, what was the original question or problem the researchers set out to address?

3. What were the assumptions and/or hypotheses the research would test?
4. What was the specific method? (In other words, summarize in detail how this research was conducted, in your own words as you understand it.)
5. What conclusion/new understanding was reached?
6. Why was it significant?
7. From the initial search to the study itself, cite all the sources you used to find and understand this research study.

**Part III: Dig into a topic of interest:**

- A. Begin some background research in TWO of your potential topics of study from part I. Read articles, studies, research papers, etc. on this area of study and create an annotated bibliography using a format from the website linked below. You will need 6-10 entries for each topic. I have included both APA and MLA examples, and either one is fine. You will learn more about the different styles and their alignment to areas of study during the first month of the course.

[How to Do an Annotated Bibliography - APA Style Guide: 6th Edition - Guides at SUNY Maritime College \(libguides.com\)](https://libguides.com)

[MLA Annotated Bibliography Examples and Writing Guide | Bibliography.com](https://bibliography.com)

- B. Examine the research methods at the following link: [What are research methods? - Research Methodologies - Pfeiffer Library at Tiffin University](https://www.tiffin.edu/library/research-methodologies). Create a chart that shows one benefit (or more) and one disadvantage (or more) of each research method shared. Feel free to research these research methods further (see what I did there?) to assist you in your analysis.

It is recommended that you space these assignments out so that you can best understand each separately. The assignments should not take a huge amount of time and are designed to give you a jumpstart into the course and groundwork to begin your original research study.

I look forward to seeing you all in the fall.