

Communication Checklist:

- Department/CAS Leader
- Principal
- Assistant Superintendent
- Curriculum Committee
- Assistant Superintendent/BOE Curriculum Sub Committee



## Granby Public Schools Change in Program of Study

### Purpose of Proposal:

- New Course
- Revision of a course (not offered for 2 or more years, change in credit, level, alignment to standards, etc.)
- Course elimination
- Course level change
- Impact on Graduation Requirements

Date Submitted: 12/12/19      Teacher Touchette/Dunn      Department/School English

### Course Information: AP Capstone Seminar

Course Title: AP Capstone Seminar

Grade(s) and level (AP, honors, academic): AP

Number of credits: 1.0

Prerequisites: none

### Background/Course History:

The Board approved AP Capstone Seminar in 2017, and this is our second year of running this class (see Program of Studies description under Curriculum below).

### Rationale for recommendation: (Vision, mission, standard, enrollment)

Board approval of this special AP offering indicates our ongoing commitment to offer opportunities to our students to engage in college level work while in high school, a commitment that aligns with our equity-based goal to maximize such opportunities for students. AP Capstone Seminar is unique in that it combines college-level literacy skills of close analytical reading and writing with research, demanding students' utilization and development of close reading, writing, and communications skills, aligned with ELA standards 9-12, particularly in the areas of research, writing, reading of nonfiction, communication and use of technology skills, warranting the offering of English credit for students in grades 10 or 11. Schools that offer AP Capstone

Sem commonly award English or Social Studies Credit, increasing the benefit and opportunity for students to select this valuable offering. Given our implementation of Pre-AP in 9th grade and intention to offer that in 10th as well in FY22, AP Capstone Seminar would be a logical option for sophomores who wish to continue their literacy work at the AP level. Given the course's similarity to AP English Language and Composition in its focus on close analytical reading and synthesis of non-fiction prose text, Seminar would be a viable option for juniors as well. Students who take Seminar in either 10th or 11th for English credit would then have the option of continuing on to AP Capstone Research to both fulfill our GMHS Capstone requirement as well as potentially earn an AP Capstone Diploma (if they have also successfully completed 4 other AP courses while in high school).

**Curriculum: (Alignment to Standards, common core expectations), integration of other content area standards, performance assessment, rubrics)**

AP Capstone 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. Students learn how to investigate real world and academic topics from multiple perspectives through extensive readings from a variety of sources, gather and analyze information, develop credible and valid evidence-based arguments, conduct research and evaluate evidence, write extensive and lengthy thesis-driven research papers, collaborate in teams and use appropriate media to communicate during debates, speeches, and presentations. AP Capstone widens the array of college course offerings for our students, equipping them with independent research, collaborative teamwork and communication skills valued by colleges and universities, and allowing our students to demonstrate our district Mission and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Expectations. In this yearlong course, students develop and strengthen analytic and inquiry skills, exploring two to four relevant issues chosen by the student and/or teacher. Students might explore the question of whether national security is more important than a citizen's right to privacy, or whether genetic engineering is a benefit to society. Using an inquiry framework, students practice reading and analyzing articles; research studies; foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; listening to and viewing speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; and experiencing artistic works and performances. Students learn to consider an issue from multiple perspectives, evaluate the strength of an argument, and make logical, fact-based decisions in addition to honing their ability to question, research, explore, pose solutions, develop arguments, collaborate, and communicate using various media. After successfully completing AP Capstone Seminar, students will have the opportunity to further hone their inquiry and analytical writing skills in AP Capstone Research. The course demands students' utilization and development of close reading, writing, and communications skills; skill attainment aligns with ELA standards 9-12, particularly in the areas of research, writing, reading of nonfiction, communication and use of technology skills.

**How will the content of this course be delivered?**

No change to current previously-approved course.

**Timelines for consideration (significant dates/deadlines/professional development/curriculum writing):**

Approval for Program of Studies (January) and Course Registration process (February)

**Budget Implications (textbooks, supplemental resources, staffing, scheduling, professional development training, and curriculum writing):**

This column to be checked by Assistant Superintendent	Budget Need Area	Yes/No: Complete for each area listed	Amount Needed	Purpose-Why??
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

**Other:**

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**Date BOE sub-committee reviewed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Action:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Approved** \_\_\_\_\_ **Not Approved**