



To: School Leaders, English Curriculum Leaders, AP Coordinators, School Counselors, and District Administrators

From: Renata Elvey, Senior Director, Advanced Placement Program

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RE: What You Should Know About English 10: AP Seminar

Exciting news for English Departments!

Schools are now choosing to offer AP Seminar as English 10. Last year, AP Seminar participation increased by 30%, making it the fastest-growing AP course, resulting in a more diverse group of students participating in AP Seminar compared to other AP courses.

Because AP Seminar is strongly aligned with state standards and teachers are able to integrate the AP Seminar framework with their school's existing curricula, offering AP Seminar as English 10 gives a wide range of students an early introduction to AP through relevant coursework and project-based assessments.

The student-centered pedagogy focused on building foundational skills for success in high school, college, and beyond is an open invitation for all students to participate and benefit from AP Seminar as their English 10 course.

We've put together answers to the questions about:

- The English 10: AP Seminar Approach
- What You Should Consider Before Implementing
- What's Available to Help You with Implementation

Please reach out if you have additional questions. We're happy to help.

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The English 10: AP Seminar Approach

Q1: What is English 10: AP Seminar?

AP Seminar is a foundational skills-based course where students engage in cross-curricular conversations through a variety of texts. Students choose a topic to explore, analyze arguments, compare different perspectives, synthesize information from multiple sources, and work in a group to communicate their ideas. Students who take English 10: AP Seminar can fulfill a core course graduation requirement.

Q2: Why are schools choosing AP Seminar as an English 10 course?

Schools are choosing to offer AP Seminar as English 10 because of its strong alignment with their state standards and its ability to integrate into the framework of their existing curricula. This approach offers a wide range of students an early introduction to AP through access to relevant coursework and project-based assessments. Taking AP Seminar in grade 10 specifically sets students up for future high school courses, career, and beyond. [Read more about student outcomes in AP Seminar.](#)

Q3: How does AP Seminar fulfill an English course requirement?

AP Seminar students master skills in analyzing a variety of texts, writing explanatory and argumentative essays, conducting research, working in teams, and presenting. These skills overlap with English 10 standards, and the course provides teachers with flexibility to integrate instruction covering local English standards. State crosswalks are available by request, demonstrating how AP Seminar aligns to state ELA standards.

Teachers can supplement their state's English 10 standards by adding literary and rhetorical analysis as well as narrative writing into the themes they choose for their AP Seminar course. While adhering to state standards, teachers can use the required or their preferred literary texts. Teachers also have the flexibility to select texts for the practice performance tasks that are literature based.

Q4: How can I be sure my students will perform well in our state assessment, if we offer English 10: AP Seminar instead of regular English 10?

AP Program has developed alignment crosswalks between AP Seminar and state English Language Arts standards to show how well AP Seminar aligns to the typical English 10 course. The [Instructional Guide for English 10: AP Seminar](#) also provides examples on how literature and narrative writing – two common topics in English 10 – can be integrated into the AP Seminar course. Schools that adopted this approach tell

us that scores of 3 or higher on the AP Seminar Exam correlate with students meeting or exceeding expectations on respective state ELA assessments.

Q5: Has participation in AP Seminar increased with the English 10: AP Seminar approach? How has the growth impacted student performance?

Yes. In 2023, there was a 30% increase in enrollment, making AP Seminar the fastest-growing AP course. With more students taking the course and more sections added, 85% of AP Seminar students continued to score 3 or higher. This approach has broadened access, making AP Seminar the course with the most diverse group of students compared to other AP courses.

What You Should Consider Before Implementing

Professional Learning

Q6: What is the requirement to teach English 10: AP Seminar?

Certified English instructors in states with an approved English 10 course code for AP Seminar are eligible to teach English 10: AP Seminar. Additionally, certified English instructors must complete the required AP summer professional learning training to teach English 10: AP Seminar.

Q7: Will the professional learning for English teachers be different than general AP Seminar professional learning and will the focus be different since it will be part of English class specifically?

English 10: AP Seminar professional learning opportunities are tailored for teachers in English Language Arts departments using English-specific examples and texts. These opportunities are facilitated by consultants who have experience teaching English and AP Seminar, and, in many cases, offer AP Seminar as an English course at their school. When registering for your AP Summer Institute, you'll have an option to attend a session with an English focus at each APSI in-person location as well as online.

Q8: Do existing AP Seminar teachers need to attend professional learning to teach the English 10: AP Seminar approach?

No. Existing AP Seminar teachers who are preparing to teach English 10: AP Seminar do not need to repeat the AP Summer Institute.

AP Course Audit

Q9: Do schools need to differentiate between AP Seminar and English 10: AP Seminar in the AP Course Audit?

Schools do not need to specify their approach for AP Seminar in the AP Course Audit, though teachers can specify it in the AP Digital Portfolio. Students enrolled in AP Seminar as well as English 10: AP Seminar take the same AP Seminar Exam. Offering AP Seminar as your school's English 10 course is just one of many ways to make AP Seminar available to students at your school.

Scheduling Options

Q10: How are schools integrating AP Seminar as English into their master schedules?

Many schools are integrating AP Seminar as an English course to fulfill graduation requirement for English. The AP Program recommends using AP Seminar to fulfill English 10 requirements in approved states. However, depending on the state policy, schools and districts have the flexibility to offer AP Seminar as a core English course in grades 11 and/or 12.

Learn how schools and districts are incorporating AP Seminar as a core course.

- [***Teacher Perspectives: Rethinking Your English Sequence with AP Seminar***](#)
- [***Administrator Insights: Rethinking Your English Sequence with AP Seminar***](#)

Q11: Can we still offer AP Seminar as an elective or can it only be offered as an English course?

AP Program strongly recommends setting up AP Seminar within English departments to provide the most opportunity for students to be able to fit the course within their schedules and meet a graduation requirement. However, AP Seminar can be offered as an elective.

Q12. Is a gradewide implementation favorable for English 10: AP Seminar?

Yes, gradewide implementation is the long-term goal for this AP course in all schools. Schools will know best how widely and how quickly to offer English 10: AP Seminar to their grade 10 students. We recommend schools have the structures in place to support a diversity of learners before requiring all grade 10 students to take this AP course. Resources and content experts are available for schools to consult and lean on.

Q13: What is a typical English sequence progression that integrates English 10: AP Seminar?

A typical pathway is to offer English 10: AP Seminar to all grade 10 students, as shown in the table below. To view the entirety of pathways, explore the [English Sequence Options Table](#).

Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English 9	English 10: AP Seminar	English 11	English 12
			AP English Language
			AP English Literature
Pre-AP English 1		AP English Language	English 12
			AP English Literature
			English 12
	AP English Literature	AP English Language	

Student Transcript

Q14: My school will be adding English 10: AP Seminar in addition to offering AP Seminar as an elective, should the course names be differentiated in the student transcript?

Schools may choose to add a subtitle to their AP Seminar course (e.g., AP Seminar: [Subtitle]) that indicates a special disciplinary focus or emphasis as long as it complies with local, district, and/or state/country policies. Schools adopting AP Seminar as an English course can add a specific designation to students' transcripts. For instance, 10th grade students who take AP Seminar as their English course can have the designation "English 10: AP Seminar" on their transcript.

Q15. How can schools verify that English 10: AP Seminar will count as a core English course when submitted for National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) eligibility?

For English 10: AP Seminar to qualify for NCAA eligibility, the course must be listed as a core English course. [Find your high school's list of NCAA core courses.](#) AP Seminar can be offered as an interdisciplinary course, or in states that allow it, it can be used as a core English course to fulfill English 10 requirements. The specific department in which the course is categorized may be decided by local or district guidelines.

Understanding AP Seminar College Credit Policies

Q16. Will colleges give credit for English 10: AP Seminar?

Over 550 institutions award college credit for AP Seminar, typically as general elective credit. With the growing adoption of English 10: AP Seminar, colleges and universities have expressed interest in reviewing credit policies for AP Seminar. To find colleges that offer credit for AP Seminar and information on the type of credit awarded, please visit the [AP Credit Policy Search](#).

Q17. Do colleges recognize AP Seminar as an English credit needed for admissions?

Yes, colleges recognize AP Seminar as a 10th-grade English course. If AP Seminar is listed as an English course and used to fulfill a high school graduation requirement, the high school subject designation should be considered for admission.

What's Available to Help You with Implementation

Curricular Resources

Q18: What curricular resources are available to support schools wanting to learn more about the implementing English 10: AP Seminar?

A variety of curricular resources are available for English curriculum leaders and teachers interested in understanding strategies and instructional approaches of English 10: AP Seminar.

- [Instructional Guide](#): Strategies to incorporate English 10 skills such as literary analysis and creative writing into the course.
- [Sample Syllabus A](#): Integrates full literary texts (Night, To Kill a Mockingbird, and Macbeth) into the course and suggests a final unit to address narrative writing standards.
- [Sample Syllabus B](#): Weaves literary fiction and non-fiction texts throughout the course.
- [Sample Syllabus C](#): Connects longer works read over the summer to shorter texts (including artistic works) based on thematic links.
- See the full [AP Seminar Course and Exam Description](#).

Consider Pre-AP English 1 as a Foundational Course

Q19: Does Pre-AP English 1 help prepare students for English 10: AP Seminar?

Taking Pre-AP English 1 in grade 9 can help all students build a strong foundation for subsequent courses such as Pre-AP English 2, English 10: AP Seminar, AP Seminar, and AP English courses. When offering the English 10: AP Seminar course, College Board recommends students move directly from Pre-AP English 1 to English 10: AP Seminar.

Students who don't take English 10: AP Seminar can continue developing their analytical reading and writing skills in Pre-AP English 2, where they will encounter scaffolded support for texts and tasks with strong connections to AP English courses and AP Seminar. [Learn more about Pre-AP Courses and AP Seminar](#).

Q20: Should I offer English 10: AP Seminar or Pre-AP English 2?

While there's considerable overlap between the learning objectives of Pre-AP English 2 and English 10: AP Seminar, one primary difference is in the way students demonstrate their learning. AP Seminar, as a college-level course, requires rigorous independent and collaborative performance tasks likely to demand a level of academic maturity not all 10th graders have attained.

Although Pre-AP English 2 focuses on similar skills, students are not expected to complete long-term, independent assignments. Rather, they receive substantial in-class support as their writing progresses over the course of the year. Whether students take English 10: AP Seminar or Pre-AP English 2 in grade 10, they will acquire skills with direct relevance to their 11th- and 12th-grade coursework.

Chat with a Content Expert

Q21: What kind of support is available for curriculum teams who have questions about how to implement for English 10: AP Seminar?

We have a team of experts available to meet with school leaders 1:1 to help with pre-implementation needs. [Schedule a 1:1 Zoom Chat with a Content Expert](#). You can ask the experts:

- How English 10: AP Seminar aligns with your state's ELA standards.
- How to integrate English 10: AP Seminar into your school's English department.
- How to prepare students for English 10: AP Seminar.
- What you should consider before adopting English 10: AP Seminar.
- What's available to help you set up your school for success.
- About other English 10: AP Seminar topics that are important to your school.

Next Steps to Offer English 10: AP Seminar

Q22: What are the steps to offer AP Seminar as English 10?

Join Today: The first step to offer English 10: AP Seminar is for a school or district leader to complete and submit the required sign-up form.

Register for Professional Learning: Ensure your new English 10: AP Seminar teachers are registered for required summer professional learning. Schools and/or district leaders who complete the required sign-up form will be notified when summer professional learning registration becomes available in early spring.