Assignment: AP Capstone Portfolio—AP Seminar Requirements (and Initial Research Profile Reflection)

Purpose

As part of the general expectations of AP Capstone, the College Board expects students to keep comprehensive process portfolios for each program year. Over both years, students will have amassed substantial notes, reflections, proposals, outlines, drafts, and presentation materials which will require organization and upkeep. Portfolio-keeping also provides students with a physical relic of understanding from which to reflect on personal development.

Digital Set-up

In Google Drive, there will be general portfolio folders named for each student and year of program entry (Last name, First name Year). These folders will be shared (with editing capabilities) with each student accordingly. Within this portfolio, students will create the following infrastructure:

- [Folder 1] AP Seminar Practice Work
- [Folder 2] Task 1, Collaborative Research
- [Folder 3] Task 2, Individual Research
- [Folder 4] AP Research Project (to be used in year two only)
- [Folder 5] Formal Reflections

Folder 1: AP Seminar Practice Work

This first folder will house all formal practice works from Modules 1-7 of AP Seminar. Teachers will provide students with the proper submission format and document labeling before submission. Those should reflect within the organization of this folder, as well.

Folder 2: Task 1, Collaborative Research

This folder will hold all research, notes, and official submissions for Module 8, Task 1. To organize the task, students will create additional folders here corresponding to the following:

- Research Notes [holds unofficial notes, saved articles, and informal process reflections]
- IRR Process [holds proposals, annotated bibliographies, and drafts]
- Collaborative Presentation Work [holds response papers, collaborative statements, presentation slides, and oral defense preparation]

Folder 3: Task 2, Individual Research

This folder will hold all research, notes, and official submissions for Module 9, high-stakes Task 2. To organize this task, students will create additional folders here corresponding to the following:

- Research Notes [holds unofficial, unstructured notes, saved articles, and informal process reflections]
- IWA Process [holds proposals, annotated bibliographies, and drafts]
- Presentation Work [holds presentation slides and oral defense preparation]

Folder 4: AP Research Project

Folder 4 will be further organized in year 2 of the program.

Folder 5: Formal Reflections

This last folder will hold formal reflections, including periodic self-evaluations (quarterly or per semester), task reflections, and end-of-course reflections. It will also be the folder for the first submission: the initial Researcher Philosophy Reflection, detailed below:

Begin by providing a self-introduction with a focus on your worldview: consider your cultural background; values you hold as instilled by your family, environment, school, etc.; beliefs about knowledge and understanding; and how you explore the world. Discuss how those beliefs, values, etc. play into your areas of personal, academic, and future career interests.

Then, consider how your views manifest a specific approach to those interests in addressing the following questions:

1. How do you gather data or information to 'know' or 'understand' something in those areas of interest?
2. How do you prove (or accept proof) of truth in these areas of interest? In other words, what is 'quality' work in these areas?
3. Do you believe one way of knowing is better (or more preferred or justified) than others? Justify your thoughts here.
4. What kinds of biases do you hold, and how will you work to ensure that they do not impact an objective approach to inquiry in your areas of interest?

Finally, reflect on areas of strength and how those strengths will become an asset to what you know about this program. Also, reflect on areas of weakness and how the program can help you develop these weaknesses. Then, discuss areas of interest, CTE skills, pathways, etc., that may become avenues of research for you in this program.

Please complete the above using organized paragraphs, formal academic language, tone, and grammar. Submissions use consistent, proper style guide format (APA, MLA, Chicago, etc., per teacher preference), around 500 words upon completion. Submit the above reflection in the given folder for progress check by the deadline.