**AP Seminar Glossary**

- **alignment** — Cohesion between the focus of an inquiry, the method of collecting information, the process of analysis of the information, and the conclusions made to increase understanding of that focus
- **argument** — A claim or thesis that conveys a perspective [position] developed through a line of reasoning and supported by evidence assumption — A belief regarded as true and often unstated
- **author** — One who creates a work (e.g., article; research study; foundational, literary, or philosophical text; speech, broadcast, or personal account; artistic work or performance) that conveys a perspective and can be examined
- **bias** — A personal opinion, belief, or value that may influence one’s judgment, perspective, or claim
- **claim** — A statement made about an issue that asserts a perspective
- **commentary** — Discussion and analysis of evidence in relation to the claim which may identify patterns, describe trends, and/or explain relationships
- **complex issue** — Issue involving many facets or perspectives that must be understood in order to address it
- **concession** — Acknowledgment and acceptance of an opposing or different view
- **conclusion** — Understanding resulting from analysis of evidence
- **context** [is everything] — The intent, audience, purpose, bias, situatedness, and/or background (larger environment) of a source or reference
- **conventions** — The stylistic features of writing (e.g., grammar, usage, mechanics)counterargument — An opposing perspective, idea, or theory supported by evidence
- **credibility** — The degree to which a source is believable and trustworthy
- **cross-curricular** — Goes beyond the traditional boundary of a single content area or discipline
- **deductive** — A type of reasoning that constructs general propositions that are supported with evidence or cases
- **evidence** — Information (e.g., data, quotations, excerpts from texts) used as proof to support a claim or thesis
- **fallacy** — Evidence or reasoning that is false or in error
- **implication** — A possible future effect or result
- **inductive** — A type of reasoning that presents cases or evidence that lead to a logical conclusion
- **inquiry** — A process for seeking truth, information, or knowledge through a study, research investigation, or artistic endeavor/work interdisciplinary — Involving two or more areas of knowledge
- **issue** — Important problem for debate or discussion
- **lens** — Filter through which an issue or topic is considered or examined
- **limitation** — A boundary or point at which an argument or generalization is no longer valid
- **line of reasoning** — Arrangement of claims and evidence that leads to a conclusion [the line of reasoning should align to the purpose for the argument]
literature — The foundational and current texts of a field or discipline of study
perspective — A point of view conveyed through an argument
plagiarism — Failure to acknowledge, attribute, and/or cite any ideas or evidence taken from another source
point of view — A position or standpoint on a topic or issue
primary source — An original source of information about a topic (e.g., study, artifact, data set, interview, article)
qualification — A condition or exception
qualitative — Having to do with text, narrative, or descriptions
quantitative — Having to do with numbers, amounts, or quantities
rebuttal — Contradicting an opposing perspective by providing alternate, more convincing evidence
refutation — Disproving an opposing perspective by providing counterclaims or counterevidence
reliability — The extent to which something can be trusted to be accurate
resolution — The act of solving a problem or dispute
scaffolding — The provision of temporary structured support for students to aid skill development
secondary source — A commentary about one or more primary sources that provides additional insight, opinions, and/or interpretation about the primary source data, study, or artifacts
sequencing — The organization of curriculum content into an order which progresses from simple to more complex
solution — A means of answering a question or addressing a problem or issue
text — Something composed (e.g., articles; research studies; foundational, literary, and philosophical texts; speeches, broadcasts, and personal accounts; artistic works and performances) that conveys a perspective and can be examined
thesis — A claim or position on an issue or topic put forward and supported by evidence
tone — The way in which an author expresses an attitude about his or her topic or subject through rhetorical choices
validity — The extent to which an argument or claim is logical [and aligned]
vocal variety — Changing vocal characteristics (e.g., pitch, volume, speed) in order to emphasize ideas, convey emotion or opinion, or achieve other specific purposes