

AP Seminar Summer Assignment 23-24

Welcome to AP Seminar! Summer assignments will be **due printed on the first day** of school.

Please also plan on assessments and class assignments that require your analysis of the documentary during the first few weeks.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at sjardim@ccslancers.com! I'm happy to help :)

OVERVIEW

It is extremely important that you enter AP Seminar with an understanding of real-world issues that are happening locally, nationally, and globally. These real-world issues will drive your research and the problem solving that happens throughout the course. It is important to note that in this class you will be expected to discuss mature topics and issues, many which could be considered controversial, in a respectful and objective manner. Remember, we can recognize that an argument has merit even if we personally disagree with it!

ASSIGNMENT

Step 1: Choose a Documentary

Look through the list of documentaries (by clicking the link provided or scanning the QR code) and choose one that addresses an issue that you're interested in! Email your top 3 selections to sjardim@ccslancers.com once you've chosen; be sure to take note of the streaming service each documentary is available on! While most documentaries are free, some require purchase (none more than \$5). You are NOT required to purchase your documentary and should have plenty of free options to choose from. However, to encourage the exploration of a variety of issues, once a documentary has been claimed twice, it will no longer be available for selection. If you would like to choose a documentary not on the list, please email me for approval.

*Note: Unavailable documentaries will be indicated with an X in the left column and a strikethrough title. ex: ~~The C-Word~~

****Please understand that these documentaries explore a variety of issues encompassing different maturity levels; choose wisely and be sure to get parental approval!**

[AP Seminar Documentary Options](#)



Step 2: Watch with a Critical Eye

Once you receive email confirmation on your documentary approval, watch the documentary with a critical eye. You may want to take notes along the way of key arguments, evidence, and perspectives presented.

Step 3: Analysis Chart

Copy the analysis chart on page 2 into a Word document and complete it for your documentary. Analysis charts will be around one page (12-point font, Times New Roman). You will be able to complete most of the chart simply by watching your documentary, but you will also need to conduct further research. See the example on page 3 for guidance. Keep in mind some of these concepts may be new for you; therefore, charts will be graded more on effort than accuracy. Try your best, but don't stress!

COLLECTION OF ASSIGNMENTS

Analysis charts should be done digitally, not handwritten, and typed in a Word document following the format on page 2. Charts are due printed on the first day of school; deductions of 10% will be taken for each day late. Additionally, be sure to keep your digital copy as it will be submitted to Canvas and checked for plagiarism through Turnitin.

NOTE ABOUT PLAGIARISM

All work submitted should be your own intellectual ideas. This is an independent assignment and is NOT something you are permitted to collaborate on with friends. Any student who submits any type of work or a key interpretive idea that is not his/her own, AI included, is guilty of plagiarism and will receive a zero for the work. Be honest in your work and have the confidence to value your own unique thoughts and opinions.



happy watching!

Your Name:	
Documentary Title:	
Issue Addressed:	

KEY ARGUMENTS & EVIDENCE PRESENTED	
Argument	Evidence

QUALITY OF EVIDENCE PROVIDED		
Source	Credibility	Potential Bias/Limitations

CREDIBILITY OF SPEAKERS		
Speaker	Qualifications	Credibility

EFFECTIVENESS OF DOCUMENTARY	
Strengths	Weaknesses

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS		
Solution	Feasibility	Potential Effectiveness

REFLECTION PARAGRAPH(S):

***NOTE:** As each documentary is different, you may have more or less than three examples for each section; 3-5 examples would be a good goal. All that matters to me is that you thoroughly evaluate your documentary! Analysis charts should be at least one page in length, but no more than two. 12 point font, Times New Roman.

EXAMPLE

Your Name:	Mrs. Jardim
Documentary Title:	<i>The C Word</i>
Issue Addressed:	cancer prevention, treatment, and patient advocacy

KEY ARGUMENTS & EVIDENCE PRESENTED	
Argument	Evidence
cancer can be prevented through lifestyle changes	Examples of people who have made significant lifestyle changes to prevent cancer and research supporting these changes
conventional cancer treatments are not always effective or appropriate	Examples of patients who have had negative experiences with conventional treatments and alternative treatments that have shown promise

QUALITY OF EVIDENCE PROVIDED		
Source	Credibility	Potential Bias/Limitations
scientific studies	high	may be limited by small sample sizes or funding sources
patient testimonials	moderate	may be biased or anecdotal

CREDIBILITY OF SPEAKERS		
Speaker	Qualifications	Credibility
Dr. David Servan-Schreiber	MD, PhD, cancer survivor	high
Morgan Freeman	actor, cancer survivor	low (not a medical expert)

EFFECTIVENESS OF DOCUMENTARY	
Strengths	Weaknesses
provides a comprehensive overview of cancer prevention and treatment	may oversimplify complex medical issues or present information without sufficient context
features a diverse range of voices, including patients, doctors, and researchers	may not provide enough in-depth information on specific topics

POTENTIAL SOLUTIONS		
Solution	Feasibility	Potential Implications
increase funding for cancer research	moderate	could lead to more effective treatments and prevention methods
improve patient education and advocacy	high	could empower patients to make informed decisions and seek out the best care

REFLECTION PARAGRAPH(S):

After watching "The C Word" documentary, I was struck by the importance of patient education and empowerment in cancer prevention and treatment. The documentary provided a wealth of information on lifestyle changes that can help prevent cancer, alternative treatments that have shown promise, and the importance of patients being informed and involved in their own care. I was particularly moved by the patient testimonials and the stories of people who have taken charge of their own health and successfully prevented or overcome cancer.

However, I also noticed some limitations in the documentary. For example, some of the information on alternative treatments lacked scientific evidence, and there was not enough discussion of systemic issues in cancer treatment and research. Nevertheless, I believe that the documentary serves as an important reminder of the power of patient education and advocacy in the fight against cancer.

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