



## Parental Consent to Participate in an AP Research Studies KIPP Colorado • Denver, CO

### Introduction

Hello! My name is Zachary Zivkovich and I am the AP Research teacher at KDC. I am sending this message to all KDC parents/guardians to inform you about the AP Research course that is offered at KIPP, as well as to ensure that you are informed about all possible student research projects prior to our studies being conducted. Over the course of the next few weeks, 18 students in our AP Research course will begin collecting data about their research projects - which are detailed below. Most of the research projects simply ask about student preferences, student opinions, and student experiences to learn more about selected student research areas.

I simply wanted to ensure that all parents/guardians were kept informed about this process that we have done over the last 5 years at KDC, and to ensure you had the opportunity to opt your children out if you would like. I can also answer any questions you may have about these research projects by using the contact information below. All student information will be kept confidential and each student will be given the opportunity to opt into/out of the study if they would like. All student participation is completely voluntary and they have the right to withdraw from their studies at any time.

Again - I do not anticipate any concerns as the student projects are simple introductory research projects - but I did want to ensure that all parents had the opportunity to sign the form below or contact me in order to opt out of any of the student research projects.

### Contact Information

Zachary Zivkovich  
AP Research Teacher  
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## About AP Research

AP Research is the second course in the AP Capstone experience, allows students to deeply explore an academic topic, problem, issue, or idea of individual interest.

Students design, plan, and implement a yearlong investigation to address a research question. Through this inquiry, they further the skills they acquired in the AP Seminar course by learning research methodology, employing ethical research practices, and accessing, analyzing, and synthesizing information. Students reflect on their skill development, document their processes, and curate the artifacts of their scholarly work through a process and reflection portfolio. The course culminates in an academic paper of 4,000–5,000 words (accompanied by a performance, exhibit, or product where applicable) and a presentation with an oral defense.

### Link to AP Research Course Description:

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/media/pdf/ap-research-course-and-exam-description.pdf>

### Title of Studies with Student Project Goals:

Student Research Topic/Question	Method of Collecting Data	Project Goal
How does the Mexican immigrant experience impact relationships with others in authoritative positions?	Voluntary Interview	To determine if past negative/positive experiences when immigrating has affected trust with authority figures.
How do common institutional factors in Denver HS sports (funding, inclusivity, gym/field use, times, coach) impact female motivation to participate in them?	Voluntary Survey	To determine if women's and men's sports teams are treated equally at the HS level in Denver, CO
How do CO2 levels in Colorado high school classrooms affect student performance and levels of alertness?	Voluntary Survey	To determine if schools with higher CO2 caused by HVAC systems show any effect on student alertness/attention.
How much do low-income high school	Voluntary Survey	To determine if students will choose

Hispanic students care about the environmental and societal negative effects of fast fashion?		clothing options based on their level of sustainability.
What are high school students' perspectives on school start times and their relationship to overall mental health?	Voluntary Survey	To examine student perspectives about a later start time at KDC.
How does educational censorship affect a student's high school social experiences?	Voluntary Survey	To determine if students feel that certain topics are censored in differing school districts.
What are the most effective strategies to bring awareness to HS students about gender misconceptions related to eating disorders?	Voluntary Survey	To determine the most appropriate ways to reduce stigmas related to eating disorders.
How does the depiction of depression in films impact perceptions of mental illness?	Voluntary Survey	To determine if films from differing eras have an impact on perceptions/stigmas related to depression.
What features of cereal box design influence teens' demand for the product?	Voluntary Survey	To determine if different marketing tactics by cereal companies correlate with a preference for certain cereals.
To what extent does implementing programs in coaching positively affect high school Latinx students dealing with athlete burnout?	Voluntary Survey, Interview	To determine best approaches for high school athletes dealing with athlete burnout.
What are the challenges physically disabled Hispanic/Latinx immigrants and their families face when migrating and living in America?	Interview	To examine what ways the US healthcare system could be improved for those suffering from disabilities.
What are the most effective treatments for	Interview	To determine best practices for treating

gambling addiction?		gambling addiction in Colorado.
How can bringing awareness to sweatshop conditions in Nike factories influence motivation to buy their products?	Voluntary Survey	To determine ways to alter individuals purchasing preferences when sweatshops are used for the production of goods.
To what extent does exposure to different forms of sexism (hostile, benevolent, ambivalent) affect teenage males' level of misogynistic views?	Voluntary Survey	To determine if exposure to videos expressing sexist views has any impact on high school males' views toward women.
How does the lack of non-verbal communication norms by teachers impact the understanding & engagement of students in high schools in Southwest, Denver?	Voluntary Survey	To see if a lack of engaging non-verbal communication methods during online classes will have an impact on student understanding/engagement with content.
To what extent do parasocial interactions/relationships with TV characters that exhibit toxic traits impact an adolescent's romantic relationship development?	Longitudinal Design using Voluntary Survey	To see if students may become attached to certain characters in TV shows. To determine if parasocial relationships relate to relationships.
How do the functional and decorative purchases in video games affect the experience of teenagers that play them?	Voluntary Survey	To determine if microtransactions in video games increase one's satisfaction while playing the game.

## Ability to Opt-Out - Sign this Form OR Email

Again - I do not anticipate any major challenges with these projects but I wanted to ensure that you as a parent/guardian were informed about this amazing course that we offer at KDC.

If you are interested in opting your child/children out of any student research projects - simply sign the form below and return it to the school OR email me at: [zzivkovich@kippcolorado.org](mailto:zzivkovich@kippcolorado.org) and I will ensure students are not included in the email chains which most students will send out to complete their studies. If you are okay with your students participating in the studies, no further action must be taken.

Thank you for your support!

Regards,

Zachary Zivkovich  
AP Research Teacher  
[zzivkovich@kippcolorado.org](mailto:zzivkovich@kippcolorado.org)  
(814) 873-3031

Sign here ONLY IF you would like your child to be opted out of AP Research projects:

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Phone/Email: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_