



News release

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Three Jackson High students earn perfect scores on AP exams

Seo-Yun Chon, Anuj Vimawala and Sam Wang score in top 1.115% in world



Everett, WA – When Sam opened the envelope from The College Board who administers the Advanced Placement Exams, he was hoping for good news. He and fellow Advanced Placement (AP) students had recently submitted research papers that would hopefully earn them a high enough score for college credit.

The letter from The College Board Senior Vice President of AP and Instruction, Trevor Packer, informed Wang he had scored a perfect score on his AP research exam titled “The Effect of Minimum Wage on Unemployment and the Automation Interaction Effect.”



Wang’s honor was shared with classmate Seo-yun Chon, who also scored every point possible on her AP research exam and received an identical letter in the mail. Chon is also a Jackson High senior. Her research paper was titled “Entomophagy: How Consumer Disgust and Cultural Factors Relate to Negative Food Attitudes in Western Society.”

If that weren’t impressive enough, fellow classmate Anuj Vimawala also earned a perfect score on his AP research exam titled “A Stressful Situation: Easing Psychological Stress Experienced by Elite Junior Tennis Players.”



Perfect scores earned them college credit and “A” grades in the corresponding college courses. They also earned a place in a very special category – that of only 111 students in the world, or 1.115 percent of total 10,216 students who took the AP research exam in 2018.

All three students took AP Research from Jackson High teacher Kevin Kukla last year. “Offering AP courses gives students the experience of a college course and essential skills that prepare them for college, particularly the first two years when students are taking multiple general education classes at an accelerated rate.” Kukla shared. “AP Research offers students a unique experience in that they choose their research interest and produce their own research. This is the kind of research that college students typically do their junior and senior year when they are taking major specific courses and are asked to produce original research.”

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Three Jackson High students, Sam Wang (top) and Seo-Yun Chon (middle) and Anuj Vimawala (bottom), earned perfect scores on their AP research exams

Wang sent Kukla a photo of his letter, adding, “You are probably the only teacher with more than one student with a perfect score, so you are clearly doing a really good job! Thank you so much for all your help and guidance! I wouldn't have been able to do it without a teacher of your caliber.”

Each comprehensive high school in Everett Public Schools has an [AP Capstone program](#). The program started with 55 Jackson High School students 2015-16. Cascade and Everett high schools added the program the following school year. Between the three high schools, 352 students are now enrolled in the program.

Want to see what a perfect-score AP research exam looks like?

[Seo-Yun Chon](#)

[Anuj Vimawala](#)

[Sam Wang](#)

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