

2002 Senior Project Requirements for Dos Palos High School

WHERE BASED.....English C4 and H4 classes.

SIGNIFICANCE.....The senior project is a three-part process: the senior research paper, the senior project, and the senior presentation. The process work and the completion of these three components will form a major part of the English 4 grade. It is designed to allow seniors to explore a possible career field that they may not have previously investigated.

RESEARCH PAPER REQUIREMENTS

TOPICTopic is chosen by the student and is approved by the senior project advisory board. It needs to be a topic which is new to the student and which challenges the student. The topic and the project activity must be connected. For example, if a student plans to do a project on computer programming, the research paper might be on the history of computers or the development of computer languages.

LENGTHMinimum of eight pages of typed, double-spaced text. Title page and sources are not included in the eight pages.

SOURCESMinimum of eight. No more than four may be from the Internet. One must be an interview with a person involved in the field of study.

STYLE.....The paper will follow the MLA style guidelines taught in junior English. It provides an opportunity for students to further develop and apply what they learned the junior year.

DUE DATE.....The final copy of the research paper is due on January 15, 2002.

PROJECT ACTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

PROJECT CHOICEProject must be related to the topic of the research paper. It must involve the physical involvement of the student in an activity. The project must be approved by the student's parents and by the senior project advisory board.

TIMEAt least 15 hours of outside class work. The work must be verified by an adult supervisor or mentor with first-hand knowledge of the student's work.

EVALUATION.....Students will be given time logs and evaluation forms for their mentors to complete and sign. Grades will be based on these forms.

DUE DATE.....The project activity must be completed and the evaluation forms turned in by April 26.

PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS

COMPONENTSThe presentation requires a portfolio, a speech, and a question and answer period. The portfolio of the student's work on the paper and the project is submitted to the judges prior to the presentation. At the presentation, the student gives a speech of five to eight minutes in length and is asked questions by the judges.

TIMEMaximum of 15 minutes per student.

JUDGESJudges from the school staff and the community will score the presentation on a rubric. The judging team will include at least one person knowledgeable in the general area of the project. For example: if an art project is being presented, an artist, art teacher, or art dealer needs to be on the judging team. This means the same five judges will not judge all the projects.

DUE DATE.....Presentations will begin on May 13. Students will schedule appointments for a particular day when the judges are available. Failure to be prepared to present at the scheduled time may result in a zero for the presentation part of the project.