

Senior Project Proposal Template

These are the following headings you need to address in your proposal. Please see the example for more ideas. One most likely will spend between 20-30 hours just creating this proposal. The more careful the proposal, the easier the process will be. You may earn up to 30 hours on your senior project before proposing to your committee – please log it under Senior Seminar, to be finalized on Nov. 4th. You will submit the proposal into Project Foundry under the Senior Seminar, a special proposal form. Most students in the past have created a Word document, formatted more professionally than Project Foundry, so they could share with their committees and submit to prospective colleges and universities with their application.

Title: (the more catchy, the better)

Student:

Advisor:

Objective:

This should be at least one paragraph and clearly define what you plan to learn.

Why I have chosen this for significant study:

Why will you spend hundreds of hours on this topic? – consider its significance to the community. If you are personally invested in this project, please make such intentions clear in this paragraph. We want to know that you care about your topic.

Committee Members:

Should have at least five members:

- *One or two parents,*
- *Two advisors (You must ask each one to be on your committee. Don't assume they will just be on your committee – they may have already committed to several seniors. It is assumed that at least one is your personal advisor but there may be special exceptions.*
- *A junior (preferably from your advisory)*
- *A community expert who may serve as your mentor during the process.*

****** *You may wonder how you are going to find a community member to sit on your committee. There are several ways to go about this. First, go out and find someone in the field. Many businesses and organizations have a commitment to community outreach and most people are honored to be considered "experts." Let them know that you need no more than 10 hours throughout the whole year, including about three hours in May. Many people will be willing to give more hours or make a lot of contacts through e-mails and on the phone. The staff will also be hosting a senior evening to introduce you to interested community members. Last year, many seniors found their community expert at that meeting. Remember, you are representing Avalon and by creating connections to the community, you are extending our mission statement. Placing importance in this step is important.*

What experts and resources I will use:

This is what will take a considerable amount of time. The earlier you focus on a bibliography, the more sources you'll have available to you. Leave a good part of the 30 hours to do preliminary research. If you can't find a lot of sources, you may consider picking a different topic. Even if you are not doing formal research, you need to have considerable background information. Consider dividing up the space in different sources such as:

- Books
- Print publications such as magazines, journals, newspapers
- Web publications
- Websites
- People

What questions I will answer:

Again, this should take a considerable amount of time. Creating a graphic organizer or web may help you come up with questions. Most great senior projects have an overarching question, or theme questions, and at least 12-15 supporting questions.

Steps to the Project:

Obviously, this may change, but the more detailed you are, the more likely your proposal will be approved. The steps should include your vision for the final products. Remember you can have several pieces to the final product. It is also extremely important that you have dates with the steps. These are not set in stone but will help you reach your goal AND will help your committee assist you in getting there. An example of a step may be meeting with your committee and updating them on your progress. Look at the calendar as you pick your due dates! Remember, you realistically have from mid-October through the end of April. May should be devoted to preparing for your presentation and writing your reflection.

Step 1: _____

Due Date: _____

Step 2: _____

Due Date: _____

Step 3: _____

Due Date: _____

Step 4: _____

Due Date: _____

Step 5....(probably should have many more steps): _____

Due Date: _____

What graduation standards I plan to address:

Explain how the standards fit with your project. Again, most great projects have no more than 2-3 standards. Some fantastic ones don't have any because the student has finished all the standards.

As you work on your proposal, meet with your advisor for assistance. When your proposal is complete, you must organize a meeting with all individuals on your committee. This meeting will take between 45-60 minutes and may serve as a part of your fall conference. The committee meeting must take place by November 4, but it may occur as soon as you are done with your proposal and have assembled your committee. See further for descriptions of meetings. In order to earn credit for the Senior Seminar, you MUST propose by 11/5/12!