

Northside High School

Senior Project Information—Class of 2018

This class is designed to guide you through the process of completing your Senior Project as well as a major component of the Georgia High School curriculum for seniors—Multicultural Literature. It should be something in which you take pride. This is your chance to leave your legacy with a memorable project focused on something in which you are *personally* invested.

- If a student does **not** complete an acceptable project, he or she may **not** participate in the graduation ceremony and may **not** receive a Muscogee County School District diploma because Senior English is a required course for graduation and the Senior Project ***is required*** for completion of the Senior English course.
- There are **five components** (The Five Ps—Person, Paper, Product, Portfolio, Presentation) of the Senior Project, and ALL FIVE must be finished and approved to have a completed Senior Project in its entirety (see following pages for information).
 1. PERSON: 10-20 hours of individual **field experience** completed with a qualified adult mentor who is over the age of 21 and not a member of the student’s immediate family or a member of the Northside faculty.
 2. PAPER: **Individually** written **research paper** to include 3 sections as well as ALL documents required during the process
 3. PRODUCT created by the student(s) based on field experience and research
 4. PORTFOLIO displaying all the student’s individual and original work
 5. PRESENTATION to be completed by the student(s) in the Spring/ 2nd semester of the graduating year
- Students must work individually.

_____ (please print) Signature: _____

I, as the sole person responsible for my own project and process, understand that I alone am responsible for my individual research and portfolio.

X_____ (Student signature) _____ (Date)

- There are many deadlines throughout the year that will help you stay on track throughout this process. It is in your best interest to keep up with these deadlines; they will help you avoid being stressed at the end of the process.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

I will do my best to communicate with you about your student’s progress on their Senior Project throughout the year. Please also sign up for PARENT PORTAL as you can check all of your student’s grades at any time via this application.

If you have any questions or concerns about your student’s progress in this class or on their Senior Project, please feel free to contact me through email at _____. You can reach me at this phone number as well: (706) 748-2920.

I, _____, understand that if my student does not complete a Senior Project he or she will be at risk of not graduating and not receiving a diploma from Northside High School. **I read this entire packet, and I understand the basic requirements for my child’s Senior Project as outlined within it.**

The best way to reach me concerning my child’s Senior Project progress is:
 _____ (Please provide an email and/or telephone number).

X_____ / ____ / ____
 Parent/Guardian Signature Date

SENIOR PROJECT PROPOSAL for _____ (Print full name)

Detailed Description of Project (including approximate cost if applicable):

How is the work a "stretch" for you? How is this a unique challenge for you?

*List at least five specific sources for your paper topic. One of these must be a transcript of an interview with your mentor. Consider a variety of sources. *Note that you will be expected to provide MLA or APA documentation of these resources in your final paper.**

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

I pledge to put forth my utmost effort to complete my senior project in an honest manner and to work collaboratively with my mentor.

Signature of student: _____

Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

TIMELINE AND DUE DATES:

Item Required	Due Date	Assessment Notes
Signature Sheet	Wednesday, August 16, 2017	
Senior Project Proposal	Friday, September 8, 2017	
Mentor Form and Copy of Formal Letter Sent to Mentor	Friday, September 29, 2017	
Phase I of Research Paper: <i>Pre-Research/Hypothesis/Exploration</i> (at least 2 pages MLA/APA)	Friday, October 27, 2017	
Phase II of Research Paper: <i>Review of the Literature in MLA or APA Format</i> (3-5 pages MLA/APA)	Friday, January 12, 2018	
Mentor Log of Quality Hours and Mentor Evaluation	Friday, February 16, 2018	10 hours = 70 (C) on log 15 hours = 80 (B) on log 20 hours = 90 (A) on log 25 hours = 100 (A+) on log
Phase III of Research Paper: <i>Explanation of Findings and Conclusion</i> (2-4 pages MLA/APA) Portfolios (all submitted electronically)	Monday, March 12, 2018	(In-Class Presentations)
Senior Project Fair	TBD	

BASIC STEPS IN THE RESEARCH PAPER WRITING PROCESS

I. PREWRITING

- Finding a Topic: About WHAT are you REALLY passionate??? What do you LOVE?
 - Select an interesting subject.
 - Think about your subject. Use the basic 5W/H (Who, what, when, where, why, how) Questions: I already know. . ., I want to find out WHO. . ., I want to learn WHEN..., I want to know WHERE. . ., I want to understand WHY. . ., I want to Find out HOW...
 - Do a search to give you an overview of your subject
 - Limit your subject! Zero in on a specific, limited topic you can adequately write about in a 5-10 page paper.
 - Write a WORKING thesis statement that states what you believe your research will prove or help you explore. NOTE: Your original thesis statement may change as you do more research.

II. SEARCHING FOR INFORMATION

- Search sources such as online databases, periodical indexes, specialized reference books, GALILEO, museums, historical societies, government offices, TV and radio, social media
- Use your COMMUNITY (the people and resources around you—particularly your mentor)
- EVALUATE your sources:
 - Use the 4R Test:
 - Relevant? (Directly relates to your topic)
 - Recent? (Current enough to be important)
 - Reliable? (Accurate, respected, trustworthy)
 - Representative? (Presents opposing viewpoints, even if stressing one position)
 - Keep a SOURCE LIST
 - List every source you use. Assign each source a number. Record all publishing information for later use in your in-text documentation and MLA/APA Works Cited/References Page.

III. STAGES OF WRITING—THE THREE PARTS OF YOUR PAPER

- Pre-Research (PHASE I)
 - You will *explore*:
 - Your interest in the topic from a 1st person POV
 - What sparked this passion of yours?
 - Why have you chosen to pursue it?
 - What are you expecting to find?
- Review of the Literature (PHASE II)
 - You will *uncover*:
 - What experts have said about your topic
 - Differing perspectives on your topic/courses to pursue
- Discovery (PHASE III)
 - You will *explain*:
 - What you found surprising and/or different from your original thinking
 - What you learned from the process
 - What you discovered about yourself and your future dreams/aspirations/goals through this process

Northside High School—MENTOR FORM—Class of 2018

(To be completed after the formal letter to your mentor has been sent, received, and accepted)

Name of Mentor: _____

Mentor's Professional Title: _____

Mentor's Business/Organization: _____

Daytime phone number of mentor: _____

Email of mentor: _____

Address of mentor: _____

I agree to allow this student to interview me and I commit to working with this student for _____ hours between the dates of ____/____/____ and ____/____/____.

These are my specific requirements as this student's mentor (Please list work hours and specific goals/job requirements as agreed upon by both parties):

Signature of Mentor: _____

Date: ____/____/____

FOR STUDENT---IF MENTOR CANNOT BE OBTAINED BY **September 29, 2017** (DUE DATE):

I could not find a mentor. Here are at least THREE mentors and their contact information that I have tried to reach with no response or results:

- Potential mentor's name: _____
 - Business/Place of employment: _____
 - Address: _____
 - Phone: _____ e-mail: _____
- Potential mentor's name: _____
 - Business/Place of employment: _____
 - Address: _____
 - Phone: _____ e-mail: _____
- Potential mentor's name: _____
 - Business/Place of employment: _____
 - Address: _____
 - Phone: _____ e-mail: _____

PORTFOLIO AND PRESENTATION INFORMATION

Basics of the Portfolio:

- All portfolios will be submitted electronically via a USB drive or other such method and will be uploaded to the school server or similar storage (Canvas)
- Portfolios will include:
 - the three part research paper complete with documentation
 - at least 8-10 photographs/videos of the process and/or product in the format of a PowerPoint, Prezi, or some other electronic viewing medium as evidence of student work
 - any other evidence the student wishes to include as part of his or her formal evaluation
- Students will submit all portfolios for evaluation on Monday, March 12, 2018.

Basics of the Class Presentation:

- Students will orally present their projects to their class.
- Presentations will include a visual product which illustrates their process and final product.
 - Presentations should last 5-7 minutes.
 - Students should expect to answer questions and must address their research and findings.
- Presentations must be organized and well-rehearsed.
- Students must dress professionally and/or according to their area of expertise.

Basics of the Project Fair:

- Selected student(s) will formally present their products and research as part of a festival in the Spring of 2018.
- Student(s) will be subjected to assessment from fellow students, faculty, and community members which will influence their final project grades.
- Student(s) must prepare a booth or design a physical space for their presentation of the Senior Project to include:
 - a visual presentation for guests/judges of the festival that details their/his or her research and product/project
 - an interactive component in which guests/judges may participate in their/his or her discoveries in some way
 - a giveaway (i.e. pamphlet, sample product, etc.) for their guests
- Student(s) may formally invite their/ his or her mentor(s) to the festival.
- Student(s) must dress professionally and/or according to their area of expertise during the festival.
- Student(s) must abide by all school rules during the festival and remain professional at all times.

Date	Time	Place	Specific Task/Activity	Mentor Signature/Initials

I, _____, do hereby attest that I have completed these hours with fidelity and within the guidelines of the stated expectations of the project.

X _____
Student Signature

Date: _____

X _____
Mentor Signature

Date: _____

