

Dominican International School



SENIOR PROJECT COURSE SYLLABUS

GRADE LEVEL: 12

TEACHERS: Ms Janice Doyle

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SCHOOL YEAR: 2024 – 2025

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COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Senior Project is intended to be the culmination of each student's academic experience at Dominican International School. It is an exciting opportunity for seniors to combine their various interests and enthusiasm with their academic lives at school. Similarly, the project is a medium for seniors to demonstrate autonomy, complexity, and awareness. This project is designed to give students some practice in writing research papers and doing presentations, which are skills needed at university.

The Five Tenets of the Senior Project

- **The Essential Question:** Because a successful and meaningful Senior Project necessarily involves genuine inquiry around a topic of the student's choosing, each senior will focus their work around a complex, interesting, and sustainable essential question.
- **Multi-Faceted Approach:** Seniors must incorporate a variety of modes of thinking in the planning, implementation and presentation of their projects.
- **A Research Component:** No Senior Project will be successful without a substantial element of new learning. This learning can take place in many ways, one of which must be research. Research must be both text-based (secondary research - library, internet, etc.) and experiential (primary research - interviews, surveys and experiment / practical / analytical aspect).
- **Collaboration:** One of the most important skills in life is the ability to work with and learn from other people. Each Senior Project must incorporate some element of collaboration with individuals inside or outside the immediate DIS community. These "outsiders" may serve as secondary mentors for the Senior Project.
- **Academic Severity:** Each Senior Project must be conceived in a way that challenges the student to think deeply and critically beyond what he/she already knows and is able to do. The topic must be big enough for the student to consider multiple perspectives, but not so big that it will lead only to superficial understanding.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The main objective of the Senior Project is to provide students with the opportunity to explore and experience an interdisciplinary topic of their choice, and to demonstrate knowledge and public presentation skills. Students are expected to exhibit the knowledge and skills that they have acquired through their tenure at Dominican International School. They should be able to work with mentors and /or teammates to choose a topic and then develop and implement a plan that promotes drawing upon past knowledge from varied courses of study, researching, hypothesizing and developing solutions.

ASSESSMENT:

Grades will be computed following the school wide policy of **30%** Class work, Homework and Projects, **30%** Tests (which will consist of various assignments students do), **30%** Quarter Exam (Critique/Reflection - 1st - 3rd quarters; Final Product + Presentation – 4th quarter) and **10%** Department. **All** work done by the students will be graded. A variety of assessment tools will be used to evaluate performance.

RULES for ASSIGNMENTS / HOMEWORK

- ✓ All work must be done (from start to finish) in the allotted folders in the SHARED DRIVE.
- ✓ All assignments must be submitted on/before the due date.
- ✓ If work is handed in early, students get extra credits, (max 7 points) per assignment.
- ✓ If work is a day late, **10%** is deducted; if more than a day late, students have to go to Project I to complete the assignment, and they will receive a **maximum of 60%** for said assignment.
- ✓ If a student has been absent, it is his/her duty to find out what assignment is due, and submit it.
- ✓ Students who miss a scheduled test or quarterly exam are responsible for requesting a make-up test/exam ASAP on return to school. The student must show us a medical certificate or proof of an emergency on the day he/she returns to school. **FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN A ZERO BEING GIVEN FOR THE TEST/EXAM.** If the student does not make up the test/exam at the earliest on return, a score of **ZERO** will be given.
- ✓ If a student/group is absent for a major assessment, they will receive a **60% (max)** score, unless they have a **very good** reason for being absent.
- ✓ **If a student/group does not fulfill the requirements enabling them to do their final presentation on time, they will forfeit the opportunity to present (losing 50% of their final exam grade).**

RESOURCES/MATERIALS:

- ✓ Internet, books, journals, etc. for research purposes
- ✓ Notepaper and writing utensils
- ✓ Binder and plastic sleeves for storing **ALL** assignments = **Portfolio** (Test grade)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please see Google Classroom for more information and reminders. Class code: **nvhturr**

Academic Dishonesty means employing a method or technique or engaging in conduct in an academic endeavor that contravenes the standards of ethical integrity expected at DIS. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to, the following:

1. Purposely incorporating the ideas, words of sentences, paragraphs, or parts thereof without appropriate acknowledgment and representing the product as one's own work; and
2. Representing another's intellectual work such as photographs, paintings, drawings, sculpture, or research or the like as one's own, including failure to attribute content to an AI.
3. Employing a tutor, making use of Artificial Intelligence without acknowledgement, getting a parent to write a paper or do an assignment, paying for an essay to be written by someone else and presented as the student's own work.
4. Committing any act that a reasonable person would conclude, when informed of the evidence, to be a dishonest means of obtaining or attempting to obtain credit for academic work.

Any act of academic dishonesty will result in an automatic zero on the entire assignment

<https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines/citations/plagiarism>

GR. 12 SENIOR PROJECT 2024-2025

1st QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 Aug 12th to 16th <u>4 Days of Class</u> 12 ~ First Day/Orientation Day 15 ~ Opening Mass & Assumption of Our Lady 8:00 15 ~ Induction of Officers	<u>Introduction</u> to course: Class Rules/Expectations <u>Google Classroom:</u> sign in <u>Group Members' Selection:</u> by Tuesday, Aug. 20th <u>Weekly Journals:</u> previous week's accomplishments. Due every Tuesday (1st Les)
Week 2 Aug 19th to 23rd	<u>Group Members' Selection:</u> by Tuesday, Aug. 20th <u>Honor Code:</u> Due on Aug. 27th <u>Topic Development:</u> Brainstorm ideas for project. Due ASAP
Week 3 Aug 26th to 30th 26 ~ Fire drill? 26 ~ MS & HS Catholic Bridge Program (after assembly) 28 ~ St. Dominic Feast Day	<u>Honor Code:</u> Due on Aug. 27th <u>Topic Development:</u> Due ASAP <u>Mentor Selection:</u> must have mentors by the end of Sept.
Week 4 Sept 2nd to 6th 2 ~ House Ceremony	<u>Personal Timeline:</u> Due on Sept. 10th <u>General Outline:</u> introduction to topic, why of interest, possible primary research, possible experiment/practical aspect, goals & objectives Due on Sept. 23rd <u>Mentor Selection:</u> by the end of Sept.
Week 5 Sept 9th to 13th 9 ~ Mass & Mother Mary Birthday & VIP Induction	<u>Personal Timeline:</u> Due on Sept. 10th <u>General Outline:</u> Due on Sept. 24th <u>Mentor Selection:</u> by the end of Sept.
Week 6 Sept 16th to 20th <u>1 Day of Class</u> 17 ~ Moon Festival 18-20 ~ Teachers' Conference	<u>General Outline:</u> Due on Sept. 24th <u>Mentor Selection:</u> by the end of Sept.
Week 7 Sept 23rd to 27th 24-26 ~ Pre-Exam Days	<u>General Outline:</u> Due on Sept. 24th <u>Mentor Selection</u> must have mentors by the end of Sept. <u>Proposal Paper:</u> Thesis, related issues, Resources available, Scope and Limitations, Strengths and Weaknesses and other sections. Due on Oct. 22nd <u>Primary Research Plan:</u> the WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, HOW, etc. of Primary Research Due Oct. 29th
Week 8 Sept 30th to Oct 4th	<u>Mentor Selection</u> must have mentors by the end of Sept. <u>Proposal Paper:</u> Thesis, related issues, Resources available, Scope and Limitations, Strengths and Weaknesses and other sections. Due on Oct. 22nd <u>Primary Research Plan:</u> the WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, HOW, etc. of Primary Research Due Oct. 29th
Week 9 Oct 7th to 11th <u>1 Day of Class</u> 7 ~ Launch of Rosary Month & Bullying Prevention Day 8-9 ~ Q1 Exams 10 ~ Double Ten Day 11 ~ Record Day	<u>Portfolio Check:</u> Due on Oct. 8th <u>Quarterly Reflection:</u> (self-evaluation) Oct. 8 or 9 = 1st QUARTER EXAMS <u>Proposal Paper:</u> Due on Oct. 22nd <u>Primary Research Plan:</u> Due on Oct. 29th

2nd QUARTER – TENTATIVE COURSE CONTENT

(NB: Depending on time and interest, the teacher may delete and/or add other selections.)

Week / Date	Topic / Projects / Assessments
Week 1 (10) Oct 14th to 18th 14 ~ Second Quarter Begins	Overview of 2 nd quarter work schedule Weekly Journals: previous week's accomplishments. Due every Tuesday (1st Les) Proposal Paper – Thesis, related issues, Resources available, Scope and Limitations, Strengths and Weaknesses and other sections. Due on Oct. 22nd Primary Research Plan – the WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, HOW, etc. of Primary Research Due on Oct. 29th
Week 2 (11) Oct 21st to 25th 25 ~ Book Fair 25 ~ Masquerade Night	Proposal Paper: Due on Oct. 22nd Primary Research Plan; Due on Oct. 29th
Week 3 (12) Oct 28th to Nov 1st 1 ~ All Saint's Day Mass	Primary Research Plan; Due on Oct. 29th 1st Survey: initial survey to get general idea/opinions Due on Nov. 5
Week 4 (13) Nov 4th to Nov 8th	1st Survey: initial survey to get general idea/opinions Due on Nov. 5 START WORKING ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 5 (14) Nov 11th to 15th	Literature Review: Analyzing the content of chosen sources: relevance, usefulness and any controversy. (2 book sources) - Due on Jan. 21st, 2025 First Draft: secondary research & some primary research. Due Feb. 18th, 2025 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 6 (15) Nov 18th to 22nd 22 ~ Gr.12 Q2 Exam 22 ~ YSC Contest	Literature Review: (2 book sources) Due on 21st, 2025 First Draft: Due Feb. 18th, 2025 Quarterly Reflection: (Q2 Exam grade) On Nov. 22nd or 25th Portfolio Check: Due on Nov. 26th WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 7 (16) Nov 25th to 29th 25 ~ Gr.12 Q2 Exam 26-28 ~ Pre-Exam Days	Quarterly Reflection: (Q2 Exam grade) On Nov. 22nd or 25th Portfolio Check: Due on Nov. 26th Literature Review: (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 21st, 2025 First Draft: Due Feb. 18th, 2025 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 8 (17) Q3 W1 Dec 2nd to Dec 6th 6 ~ Foundation Day Celebration (Half Day)	Literature Review: (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 21st, 2025 First Draft: Due Feb. 18th, 2025 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 9 (18) Q3 W2 Dec 9th to 13th 3 Days of Class 12-13 ~ Q2 Exams	Literature Review: (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 21st, 2025 First Draft: Due Feb. 18th, 2025 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Dec 16th to Jan 3rd	Christmas Break