

Dominican International School



SENIOR PROJECT COURSE SYLLABUS

GRADE LEVEL: 12

TEACHERS: Ms Janice Doyle

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SCHOOL YEAR: 2023 – 2024

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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, which is a skill 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 and used as formative or summative assessment. A variety of assessment tools will be used to evaluate performance.

HOMEWORK RULES

- ✓ All assignments must be submitted on 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 homework 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 bring 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, then a score of ZERO will be given.
- ✓ If a student is absent for a major assessment, they will receive a **60% (max)** score, unless they have a **very good** reason for being absent.

RESOURCES/MATERIALS:

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Please see Google Classroom for more information. Class code: **yqtbrbw**

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 2023-2024

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 10th & 11th <u>2 School Days</u> <i>11 ~ First Day / Orientation Day</i>	<u>Introduction</u> to course: Class Rules/Expectations <u>Google Classroom</u> : sign in <u>Group Members' Selection</u> : by Friday, Aug. 18 <u>Weekly Journals</u> : on what achieved previous week. Due 1st Lesson
Week 2 Aug 14th to 18th <i>15 ~ Opening Mass</i>	<u>Group Members' Selection</u> : by Friday, Aug. 18 <u>Honor Code</u> : Due on Aug. 25 <u>Topic Development</u> : Brainstorm ideas for project. Due ASAP
Week 3 Aug 21st to 25th	<u>Honor Code</u> : Due on Aug. 25 <u>Topic Development</u> : Due ASAP <u>Mentor Selection</u> : must have mentors by the end of Sept.
Week 4 Aug 28th to Sept 1st	<u>Personal Timeline</u> : Due on Sept. 8 <u>General Outline</u> : introduction to topic, why of interest, possible primary research, possible experiment/practical aspect, goals & objectives Due on Sept. 19 <u>Mentor Selection</u> : by the end of Sept.
Week 5 Sept 4th to 8th <i>8 ~ Mass & VIP Induction</i>	<u>Personal Timeline</u> : Due on Sept. 8 <u>General Outline</u> : Due on Sept. 19 <u>Mentor Selection</u> : by the end of Sept.
Week 6 Sept 11th to 15th <i>12-14 ~ Pre-Exam Days</i>	<u>General Outline</u> : Due on Sept. 19 <u>Mentor Selection</u> : by the end of Sept.
Week 7 Sept 18th to 22nd	<u>General Outline</u> : Due on Sept. 19 <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. 17 <u>Primary Research Plan</u> : the WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, HOW, etc. of Primary Research Due Oct. 31
Week 8 Sept 25th to 29th <u>No Classes</u> <i>25-28 ~ Teacher's Conf 29 ~ Moon Festival</i>	NO CLASSES
Week 9 Oct 2nd to 6th <u>3 Days of Class</u> <i>5 & 6 ~ Q1 Exams</i>	<u>Portfolio Check</u> : Due on Oct. 6 <u>Quarterly Reflection</u> : (self-evaluation) Oct. 5 or 6 = 1st QUARTER EXAMS <u>Proposal Paper</u> : Due on Oct. 17 <u>Primary Research Plan</u> : Due on Oct. 31

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 9th to 13th 3 Days of Class <i>9-10 ~ Double 10 Holiday</i>	Overview of 2 nd quarter work schedule <u>Weekly Journals:</u> on what achieved previous week. Due 1st Lesson <u>Proposal Paper</u> – Thesis, related issues, Resources available, Scope and Limitations, Strengths and Weaknesses and other sections. Due on Oct. 17 <u>Primary Research Plan</u> – the WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY, HOW, etc. of Primary Research Due on Oct. 31
Week 2 (11) Oct 16th to 20th	<u>Proposal Paper:</u> Due on Oct. 17 <u>Primary Research Plan:</u> Due on Oct. 31
Week 3 (12) Oct 23rd to 27th	<u>Primary Research Plan:</u> Due on Oct. 31 <u>1st Survey:</u> initial survey to get general idea/opinions Due on Nov. 7
Week 4 (13) Oct 30th to Nov 3rd <i>1 ~ All Saint's Day Mass</i>	<u>Primary Research Plan:</u> Due on Oct. 31 <u>1st Survey:</u> initial survey to get general idea/opinions Due on Nov. 7
Week 5 (14) Nov 6th to 10th	<u>1st Survey:</u> initial survey to get general idea/opinions Due on Nov. 7 <u>Literature Review:</u> Analyzing the content of chosen sources: relevance, usefulness and any controversy. (2 book sources) - Due on Jan. 16, 2024 <u>First Draft:</u> most of <u>secondary research</u> , some <u>primary research</u> . Due Feb. 20, 2024
Week 6 (15) Nov 13th to 17th	<u>Literature Review:</u> (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 16, 2024 <u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20, 2024
Week 7 (16) Nov 20th to 24th	Q2 EXAMS – Gr. 12 ~ Nov. 24th <u>Portfolio Check:</u> Due on Nov. 28 <u>Quarterly Reflection:</u> (Q2 Exam grade) On Nov. 24 <u>Literature Review:</u> (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 16, 2024 <u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20, 2024
Week 8 (17) Q3 W1 Nov 27th to Dec 1st	Q2 EXAMS – Gr. 12 ~ Nov. 27th <u>Portfolio Check:</u> Due on Nov. 28 <u>Literature Review:</u> (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 16, 2024 <u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20, 2024 START WORKING ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 9 (18) Q3 W2 Dec 4th to 8th FALLS UNDER Q3 <i>8 ~ Foundation Day Celebrations</i>	<u>Literature Review:</u> (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 16, 2024 <u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20, 2024 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 10 (19) Q3 W3 Dec 11th to 15th FALLS UNDER Q3 3 Days of Class <i>14-15 ~ Q2 Exams</i>	<u>Literature Review:</u> (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 16, 2024 <u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20, 2024 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Dec 18th to Jan 1st	Christmas Break

3rd 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 (20) Q3 W4 Jan 2 nd to 5 th <u>3 Days of Class</u> 4 ~ New Year Mass	Overview of 3 rd quarter work schedule <u>Weekly Journals:</u> on what achieved previous week. Due 1st Lesson <u>Literature Review:</u> (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 16, 2024 <u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20 2024 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 2 (21) Q3 W5 Jan 8 th to 12 th	<u>Literature Review:</u> (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 16 <u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 3 (22) Q3 W6 Jan 15 th to 19 th	<u>Literature Review:</u> (2 book sources) Due on Jan. 16 <u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 4 (23) Q3 W7 Jan 22 nd to 26 th	<u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 5 (24) Q3 W8 Jan 29 th to Feb 2 nd	<u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 6 (25) Q3 W9 Feb 5 th to 9 th <u>3 Days of Class</u> 8-9 ~ CNY	<u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Feb 8th to 16th	Chinese New Year Break
Week 7 (26) Q3 W10 Feb 19 th to 23 rd 19 ~ Lenten Mass 21-23 ~ Pre-Exam Days	<u>First Draft:</u> Due Feb. 20 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 8 (27) Q3 W11 Feb 26 th to March 1 st <u>4 Days of Class</u> 28 ~ 228 Memorial Day Holiday	<u>Follow-up Survey/s:</u> include in 2 nd draft Due on Mar. 12 <u>2nd Draft:</u> include primary research results, analysis & final sections. Due Mar. 19 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)
Week 9 (28) Q3 W12 March 4 th to 8 th <u>4 Days of Class</u> 8 ~ Q3 Exams	<u>Quarterly Reflection:</u> (Q3 Exam grade) On Mar. 8 or 11 <u>Portfolio Check:</u> Due on Mar. 12 <u>Follow-up Survey/s:</u> include in 2 nd draft Due on Mar. 19 <u>2nd Draft</u> – include primary research results, analysis & final sections. Due Mar. 19 WORK ON PRACTICAL ASPECT (Completed in 2nd Draft)

4th 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 (29) March 11th to 15th <u>4 Days of Class</u> 11 ~ Q3 Exams 12 ~ Q4 Begins	Overview of 4 th quarter work schedule Weekly Journals: on what achieved previous week. Due 1st Lesson Follow-up/Final Survey/s: include in 2 nd draft Due on Mar. 12 2nd Draft – include primary research results, analysis & final sections. Due Mar. 19
Week 2 (30) March 18th to 22nd 18-21 ~ Fire Drill	2nd Draft – include primary research results, analysis & final sections. Due Mar. 19 Final Paper – final revision of paper. Due on Apr. 16 PowerPoint – make PP for presentation. Due on Apr. 16 Presentation Practice – signposting, speaking naturally, ppt.
Mar 25th to Apr 5th	Easter Break
Week 3 (31) Apr 8th to 12th 10 ~ Easter Mass	Final Paper – final revision of paper. Due on Apr. 16 PowerPoint – make PP for presentation. Due on Apr. 16 Presentation Practice – signposting, speaking naturally, ppt.
Week 4 (32) Apr 15th to 19th	PowerPoint – make PP for presentation. Due on Apr. 16 Presentation Practice – signposting, speaking naturally, ppt. Portfolio Check (Final): Due on Apr. 23 Quarterly Reflection: (Q4 - Test grade) On May 3 SENIOR PROJECT PRESENTATIONS
Week 5 (33) Apr 22nd to 26th 22-26 ~ AP Mock Exams	AP Mock Exams
Week 6 (34) Apr 29th to May 3rd 1-2 ~ Pre-Exam 1-10 ~ Final Exams (K, 5, 8, 12)	May 1-10 ~ Final Exams (Gr 12)
Week 7 (35) May 6th to 10th 1-10 ~ Final Exams (K, 5, 8, 12) 6 – 17 ~ AP Exams	May 1-10 ~ Final Exams (Gr 12) May 6-17 ~ AP Exams
Week 8 (36) May 13th to 17th <u>2 Days of Class</u> 6 – 17 ~ AP Exams 15-16 ~ Q4 Exams 17 ~ Record Day	6-17 ~ AP Exams GRADUATION PREPARATION
Week 9 (37) May 20th to 24th <i>ACTIVITIES: Double check the school calendar and emails from the administration.</i>	20-24 ~ Student Clearance Days 21 ~ Baccalaureate Mass for Graduating classes 22 & 23 ~ Middle & High School Sports Day 23 ~ Pre-Kindergarten & Gr. 1 - 4 Recognition, Kindergarten Graduation and Gr. 5 Promotion 24 ~ Gr. 6 & 7 Recognition and Gr. 8 Graduation 24 ~ Lower School Sports Day
Week 10 (38) May 27th to 31st <i>ACTIVITIES: Double check the school calendar and emails from the administration.</i>	27 ~ House Culminating Activity 28 ~ Gr. 9-11 Recognition and Gr. 12 Graduation 29 ~ Class Party 30 ~ Last Day of School & Report Card Distribution (half day) 31 ~ Teachers/Staff Meeting