

• Why does the high school have this graduation requirement?

Washington state law (WAC-180-51-061) requires a culminating project for graduation from high school.

Each student shall complete a culminating project for graduation. The project consists of the student demonstrating both their learning competencies and preparations related to learning goals three and four. Each district shall define the process to implement this graduation requirement, including assessment criteria, in written district policy.

Goal 3: Think analytically, logically, and creatively; integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems.

Goal 4: Understand the importance of work and how performance, effort, and decisions directly affect future career and educational opportunities.

• Who will help students with completing this requirement?

Students will learn about this requirement from their advisors during the spring of their sophomore year. Students will receive support during Rider Time and from their English 12 teachers. (See next page for additional information.)

• What work must students complete from this requirement?

The Senior Culminating Project has these elements.

- 1. A prospectus in which students identify:
 - what essential question is the basis for their project
 - how they intend to answer this question
 - what they intend to do as an application project
 - how their proposed project is related to learning goals three and four
 - how their proposed project is a stretch for them
- 2. A proclamation poster that publicizes their proposed project to other students.
- 3. A **I-Search paper** and **précis** about their research that:
 - is guided by their essential question
 - tells the story of their research process
 - explains what they found out in attempting to answer their question

4. An application project that:

- is an authentic application of the knowledge the students have gained
 - o a new competency (a piece or collection of art, a dance, a performance, etc.)
 - o something that the student produces to illustrate or demonstrate what they've learned
- 5. A presentation to a panel of adults in which students
 - · demonstrate what they have learned in answering their question
 - share their application project
 - respond to questions from the panel

When will students do this work?

Task	When
Students learn about project.	May of sophomore year during Rider Time
Students receive help in writing essential questions.	First semester of junior year during Rider Time
Students complete prospectus.	First semester of junior year during Rider Time Due date: January 16, 2009
Students complete proclamation poster.	Second semester of junior year during Rider Time Due date: April 17, 2009
Students conduct research to answer their question.	As soon as their prospectus has been approved.
Students write research paper.	Sept. through December of senior year in English 12 Due date: December 11, 2009
Students begin plans for their presentation.	Second semester of senior year in English 12
Students give presentations.	April of senior year to English 12 class for class credit. May of senior year to faculty panel, required for graduation.

• What about students with Individualized Education Programs or 504 accommodations?

Necessary and appropriate accommodations and modifications will be made for students who have an IEP or 504 plan. These accommodations and modifications will be determined by each student's support team.

• What about students who will not be on campus during Rider Time or are not enrolled in English 12?

For students who will not be enrolled in an advisory next year, such as Running Start and Skills Center students, additional support and coordination is available through Diana Losch in the Career Center at the high school (ext. 1617).

Students not planning to enroll in English 12 will be expected to work independently to complete the project, although other support is available for these students from their advisors, on the SCP website, and from the SCP Coordinator Mark Valentine (ext. 1578).