

Syllabus: Senior Project 2018-2019

Greer Middle College Charter High School
138 W. McElhaney Road
Taylors, SC 29687

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Course Description:

Senior project is a capstone project for the senior year, is required by our charter, and is mandatory for graduation. Students have a year to complete an individualized learning experience, or partner project. Beginning with a driving question, students will research, work with a mentor, and complete a portfolio, product, and presentation to the community. The course is structured to guide students through their independent study or partner projects.

This syllabus is just a brief overview, and it is imperative that you read and adhere to the Senior Project Handbook.

Course Objectives:

This project will allow students to show that they have the knowledge, skills and attitudes to become:

A. Self-directed, lifelong learners who

- Develop and maintain a sense of commitment to learning;
- Take responsibility for and pride in the quality of performance and products;
- Participate in challenging experiences with perseverance;
- Establish and work toward personal goals;
- Access information from a variety of sources;
- Demonstrate responsible creativity and imagination.

B. Flexible workers who

- Operate independently with confidence;
- Collaborate effectively and responsibly with both peers and adults;
- Demonstrate skills of decision making, leadership and teamwork;
- Formulate, write and carry out a plan;
- Use technology as a tool.

C. Complex thinkers who

- Analyze situations from multiple perspectives;
- Identify and solve complex problems using knowledge from the humanities, mathematics, science, and the arts;
- Form reasoned judgments.

D. Effective communicators who

- Listen with a focused and inquisitive mind;
- Search for answers to questions;
- Express knowledge, ideas and feelings effectively through written and oral language;
- Interact with the community.

Materials:

Senior Project Handbook - suggestion: print the handbook off of school website and keep in ½" binder
3 Ring Binder - should be at least 3" OR Digital Portfolio option (must be approved)
Dividers (extra-long tabs for visibility)
Sheet Protectors
Flash Drive - preferably a separate one just for Senior Project OR save everything to Google Drive
Pencils or pens

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Scope & Sequence

Daily: Note-taking; Research; Portfolio Progress & Checks

Bi-Weekly: Journaling; Evaluating Research

Quarterly: Reflections; Meetings to Discuss Progress (Coach + Faculty Checks)

Outside-of-Class: Mentor Meetings; Product Work

SC Uniform Grading Scale

A= 90-100

B= 80-89

C= 70-79

D= 60-69

F= 59 or below

GMC Performance Levels:

90-100 = Mastery

80-89 = Proficiency

0-79 = Below Proficiency

*Please bear in mind that any grade below an 80 is a failing grade at GMC.

The 4 Components are averaged for Final Grade	Cohort Class Breakdown:
25% Portfolio* (Graded by a panel of 3 GMC faculty members)	Participation (Research Log, Timeline, Class Work, etc.)- 20%
25% Product* (Graded by SP Committee)	Journals- 20%
25% Presentation* (Graded by Judges from Community)	Portfolio Checks- 25%
*You will receive separate rubrics for each of these components.	Forms & Contracts- 10%
25% Cohort Class (Graded by Coach)	Research- 25% (Q1-Q3 Only)
	Final Reflective Essay- 25% (Q4 Only)
	Midterm Reflection- 10% (S1 only)
	*Overall SP Grade with 4 components averaged will count as final exam in all high school classes. There is no final exam for SP.

Behavioral Expectations: Students should always show respect to teachers, other students, their environments, and themselves. Also, my expectations are that students will demonstrate responsibility and represent GMC as seniors in a constructive manner. However, if a student consistently disrupts the classroom or school setting, that student will be referred to the administration.

Students must exhibit academic integrity as well as comply with policies described in the GMC student handbook.

Cell Phones may be used in the SP Class for Mentor Contacts or SP related business, and only with teacher permission. Refer to the GMC School Handbook for school-wide policy.

REMIND TEXTS: Weekly messages will be sent to share assignments and/or class information. Students must register for my Remind texts by texting this number: 81010 with the following message: @sp18-19
Parents may register if they wish to receive messages.

Late Assignments: Refer to the GMC School Handbook for school-wide policy.

It is up to the student to find out what he or she missed during an absence and to receive a due date from me.

Attendance: South Carolina law states that a student must attend at least 85 days of a 90 day one unit course (GMC year-long A/B block schedule); therefore only five (5) total unexcused absences are permitted in this class. ATTENDANCE IS AN ESSENTIAL COMPONENT OF SUCCESS. When a student is absent, he/she misses valuable instruction and the opportunity to work in class. Adequate time is given in class to complete most assignments. If a student is absent, my expectation is that the work is completed at home or in Office Hours outside of regular class time. Students are allowed two excused Senior Project workdays (pre-arranged absences) and must have parent & administrative approval prior to the excused workday(s).

Office Hours & Extra Help: Tuesdays & Wednesdays from 3:00-3:45 or schedule appointments individually