

AIMS Academy Senior Project 2016 - 2017

All AIMS seniors are each required to complete a Senior Project (SP) related to some aspect of the health/science industry. This is a capstone project demonstrating your academic skills acquired over your AIMS high school career. Senior Project is not a repeat of your 9th, 10th or 11th grade integrated projects. However, the skills and knowledge required to complete those projects will be incorporated in the senior project. Your group should go beyond previous projects and extend your skills in this capstone project.

Major Components of Senior Project	Due to Teacher	Due Date
1. Introducing Senior Project Forming Groups	Oberjuerge	November
2. Choosing a Topic – (Approval Form see attached)	Schafer	November
3. Researching a Health/Science Topic	Jasinska	November - January
4. Writing an Individual Research Paper	Schafer	January
5. Organizing a Community Presentation (Approval Form see attached)	Oberjuerge	February
6. Developing Appropriate “Products” to Support Your Presentation	Work w/your group’s Advisor	February - April
7. Presenting to Your Community Audience		March - April
8. Completing a Project Portfolio Notebook	Oberjuerge	April - May
9. Presenting Your Senior Project Before a Judging Panel	12th Grade Team	May

1. Forming Groups

- Select project members wisely. Senior Project has some individual aspects/grades, but also some group grades. Select group members who are able to work well together. Each student or student team (maximum of 4 people) will choose its own senior project topic. Narrow or simple topics should have teams of two.
- Serious conflicts amongst group members must be dealt with in a timely manner. Written documentation must accompany complaints.

2. Choosing a Topic

Students are encouraged to choose topics for which they feel passion and/or great interest, concern or curiosity. Review the following for ideas:

- Projects which are directly related to Work Experience, CTE courses, or specific aspects of your AIMS experience are encouraged.
- See attached list for potential topics
- No two teams can have the same topic.

3. **Researching a Controversial Health/Science Concern Topic**

In-depth Research (which includes primary and secondary source research, interviews, observations, and other experiences/services.) You should become an “expert” on your topic. Your Senior Teachers will assist in identifying various research topics.

4. **Writing an Individual Research Paper**

Each group member will write a 4-5 page research paper. This will be done in APA, MLA, or Chicago format. Your format must stay consistent throughout your paper. Each member of the group will have a different sub-theme for your topic. More information will be provided in your ERWC class for writing your individual research paper.

5. **Organizing a Community Presentation**

It is your responsibility to decide where and when you want to do your community presentation. It must be completed by the time you do your panel presentations sometime in April. Don't wait until the last minute to find an audience! You should actually be thinking about your audience while you are choosing a topic. Some senior project groups have obsessed about a topic so much, that they don't consider that finding an audience might not be an easy task. Remember, the purpose of the senior project is to help elicit a change in the health habits of your community, so keep this in mind from the beginning. Obviously, none of your AIMS teachers will be with you (unless you invite them) during your community presentation, so we will only be evaluating your Senior Project Panel Presentation.

To make contact with community members, start with a formal email or telephone contact. Make sure you save copies of these for your senior project binder. If you are making a personal or telephone contact, make notes during your conversation and place these in your binder as well. Once you have confirmed your appointment, fill in the Senior Project Community Presentation Approval Form and turn it into Mr. Oberjuege.

6. **Developing “Products” to Support Your Presentation**

Your group needs to develop final **products** that are of use to others (working internet site, powerpoint presentation, multiple page newsletter, health education multi-page pamphlet, multi-unit resource guide, complex visual display, organizing an event, fundraising for a charity, providing a demonstration) and demonstrates quality work, effort, and a rich understanding of your topic.

7. **Presenting to Your Community**

All products have been completed and are ready for your community presentation. You have good visual supports, accurate/relevant information and all members are prepared for the community presentation. By the end of April your group's presentation is completed in a professional manner and evidence is collected (ex. surveys, pictures of your group presenting, etc).

8. **Presenting Your Senior Project Before a Judging Panel**

The panel presentations are done in May and are scored. The panel of SP judges will tentatively include AIMS Academy students, parents, industry and community partners, teachers, and staff. Individuals/Teams will receive copies of the assessment rubric and panel judges will provide both written and oral feedback to individuals/teams.

In your presentation you must demonstrate effective communications skills and strong knowledge of all aspects of your project. **During your Jordan Senior Project Panel Presentation Time you will:**

- Provide a summary of your findings from doing your research and of your community presentation. Explain how and why you chose this audience and your goal for presenting to this audience.

- Explain how your target audience was changed or influenced by your presentation and how you measured this change.
- Reflect overall on the work you did for this project, on your group’s dynamic, and on the knowledge/skills you acquired by completing the senior project.

In order to receive a high score on your presentation, you must:

- Create a PowerPoint which covers the topics listed above. (mandatory)
- Demonstrate effective oral communication and dress in a professional manner.
- Provide copies to your panel judges of all the materials/handouts you created for your audience.
- Include effective use of multimedia products/technology and project display(s).
- Your presentation materials should be used to enhance your presentation. Simply bringing food or treats for the panel judges as a “bribe” is not an effective tool. Only provide items that somehow go with your topic or presentation.

9. **Completing a Senior Project Portfolio Notebook– Your project portfolio notebook should be well-organized and professional.**

To be included in your Senior Project Portfolio:

- a. **Senior Project Topic Approval Form**
- b. **Project Plan (see Action Plan Template)**
 - i. Community presentation project plan – audience and purpose
 - ii. Project plan for visuals (power point, brochure, panel board, fundraiser, etc.) Write out your tentative project plan (work plan). Who will do/accomplish what, when? If you are planning a group project, each team member must have separate tasks for which he/she is responsible. Your team plan can include each team member’s plan of work/action. Break down your planned activities into steps. Use as many steps as you need. Seriously, try to plan everything you will need to do.
 - iii. Evidence of work: What evidence of progress will you provide? (Examples: notes from interviews/telephone conversations, photos, texts, emails, correspondence, FB postings, surveys etc.)
 - iv. Planning for community presentation
 - v. Work logs
- c. **Research Paper** (one copy of each student’s paper)
- d. **Finished products/visuals**
- e. **Panel Presentation PowerPoint**

Senior Project (SP) Assessment

Every component of your project will be assessed. The **Final Product(s), Display(s), Community Presentation and Senior Project Panel Presentation** will constitute the final score as shown in the **SP Rubric**. Your final product(s) and service(s) will be evaluated on how they meet the product/service description in your plan, represent high quality work that is your own work, demonstrates knowledge/skills/understanding related to the health field, and meets the criteria of benefiting the community.

Group members will also self-assess their participation and distribute your final points among the group members based on your individual SP accomplishments, participation and contribution to the group.

Your final project portfolio/project notebook and project displays will also be evaluated; they must demonstrate serious effort, high quality work, and creative and effective use of technology and multimedia. Three-panel

displays are available for your use. If you choose to use a panel display, we suggest a format similar to those that would be on display in a doctor's office or at a health fair. Your display should contain a title of your project; your purpose or aim; photos/pictures/graphic displays. (A note about graphics—do not use pixilated photos from the internet. They look tacky and unprofessional!) Your project display should be organized and clearly labeled. It should be readable by your audience! You might also choose to create a multimedia presentation, create a slideshow, or a web page. The method(s) used to display your work is your choice; however, make sure you have the appropriate means of displaying your work to the general public and to your panel on Panel Presentation Day.

Final Self-Reflection

“Half of knowledge is the question; the other half is the answer.” *Muslim proverb*

Each member of the group must include a final self-reflection in the Project Portfolio/Notebook. You will also turn in a copy of this reflection to your senior English (ERWC) teacher for a grade.

Use this reflection as a way to tell not only the story of your project, but also to explain your explorations and growth as a learner. Tell the whole story of your project journey. Write about each stage of your project as journal entries. Link your journal entries to change, discovery, and new perspectives. See below for possible journal entries for self-reflection.

1. TOPIC -What was especially important to you as you chose your topic? How does your proposed project relate to what you have learned before? What is the significance of your SP for your own growth as a learner? What do you know now that you didn't know before?
2. LEARNING- How does your SP relate to other things learned as part of the Academy program, other classes, extra-curricular experiences, and work experience? What previous experiences have prepared you for being successful at completing a SP? What strengths as a learner do you bring to your SP? What are some of your limitations and/or weaknesses as a learner that added to the challenge of your SP?
3. COMMUNITY- You have been asked to connect your SP with the community. In other words, your SP should somehow benefit someone other than yourself and/or have an audience wider than your teacher and class. How did you intend to have your project make a difference? How did you intend to do something proactive, create a product that others can use and learn from? Write about what you did, what happened, and how you felt about it.
4. PLANNING- Now that you are a sophisticated, mature, wise senior, has the way in which you plan a project changed since you were a ninth, tenth or 11th grader? If so, how? Can you generalize the way you learned best from the work you have done so far on your SP as opposed to how you saw yourself as a learner in the ninth and tenth grade? How have you changed as a learner/student? What can you do now (or do better now) than before? In what aspects of planning have you noticed the most improvement? How do you know?
5. FINAL THOUGHTS - How are you changed by doing this project?

ANATOMY & PHYS. RESEARCH PAPER TOPICS "WHEN SOMETHING GOES WRONG"

THIS IS A SUGGESTION LIST OF POSSIBLE CATEGORIES! Each major category can sustain more than one research paper. All topics & titles must be approved!!!

*****Topics can include but are not limited to current research on certain diseases or disorders, disease or disorder treatments, new prescription medicines that are being tested , medical technology/procedures that are being utilized, health and fitness, etc.**

Cell Biology and Genetics

Endocrine System

Digestive System

Reproductive Biology

Respiratory Physiology

Cardiovascular Physiology and Blood

Skeletal System

Urinary System

Immune System

Skeletal Muscle Physiology

Neuroscience

Integumentary System

Public Health Concerns

Mental Health

Senior Group Topic Approval Form (one per group)

(Must be signed by a AIMS Senior Teacher or Ms. Meade)



Group Topic:

Names of Group Members & Individual Topics To Be Researched:

(*What is Diabetes* is not specific & not acceptable. **New Generations of Drugs to Treat Type II Diabetes** is much more specific.)

Name _____

Individual Topic: _____

Name _____

Individual Topic: _____

Name _____

Individual Topic: _____

Name _____

Individual Topic: _____

Example:

Group Topic: Skin Cancer

Individual Topic: How does UV light influence growth of malignant cells

What is your purpose in doing this project?

Identify possible audiences for community presentations:

(Remember, your **Community Project Presentation Approval Form** will be due about 4 weeks after this Approval Form is due)

Date

Senior Teacher Signature Approval

Senior Project Community Presentation Approval Form

(Must be turned in to Mr. Oberjuerge) One per group.



Name or Names of All Group Members:

Description of Topic (Be specific...*Diabetes* is not specific enough. *New Generations of Drugs to Treat Type II Diabetes* is much more specific.)

Identify audience for community presentations:

Date of Presentation _____

What outcome would you expect after your audience listens to your presentation?
(Remember the purpose of your presentation is to create change in your target audience.)

Name of Person/Agency _____

Address of Person/Agency _____

Telephone Contact Information _____

Action Plan Template

(Type the information right on this template. Make a separate template for each product needed to complete the project.)

Identify the action/product needed to complete the project:

What is the due date for the product?

Timeline	Person Responsible/ Contact	Task/Activities Needed to Achieve the Goal	Results (Record whether the work was accomplished or if you had to reassign it to another individual. Also record the quality of the work.)