

PHS Senior Project – Commonly asked questions answered

1. What is a senior project?
It is a capstone experience requiring students to demonstrate advanced learning.
2. Why do I have to do a senior project?
It is both a State of Idaho and Preston High School graduation requirement.
3. How much time will the project require?
In addition to the time spent planning and completing forms, a minimum of 20 hours is required. These hours are split among 4 academic areas with a minimum of 3 hours per area.
4. What is the project proposal?
The project proposal is a formal document identifying specific planned activities the student will DO to learn about the chosen topic. The student completes the online form found on the senior project website and submits it electronically to the project committee for approval. The proposals must be approved by the committee before any work may be done.
5. Why am I required to do multiple activities from multiple academic areas?
To make the project a capstone experience, students are expected to show the ability to plan and complete learning from a variety of subject areas.
6. Am I required to do all the different proposal areas?
No. All students must complete hands-on type activities but are to choose from the other areas the three that best fit the students learning objective.
7. Why must I do something new?
Completing a project on a topic of which the student already has vast experience or expertise does not qualify as a capstone experience.
8. Can I count something I have done in the past as my senior project?
No. The project proposal process must be completed and accepted before any work may begin.
9. Can I count an activity that I do in/for another class?
No. Because Preston High school awards a credit for the successful completion of the project all work must be in addition to any other class work.
10. Can I count time I do for a paid job toward the required hours?
No.
11. Can I make changes to my proposal and project?
Changes can be made if they are approved by a supervisor prior to the work being done.
12. When can I start?
Students may begin in the second semester of their junior year as soon as all forms have been completed, submitted, and approved.
13. What if I feel the senior projects is a waste of time and effort?
Firstly, the project is a graduation requirement. Secondly, because students select their own learning topic the responsibility to make the project worthwhile is on the student.