

**Q. What is the Senior Culminating Project (SCP)?**

A. The Senior Culminating Project is a graduation requirement that gives students the opportunity to connect school to life outside of school. Students choose projects that connect to vocational, academic, service, cultural and/or artistic interests. These projects are an opportunity for students to refine and demonstrate the skills they have gained in school while pursuing a personal interest.

**Q. What are the goals of the SCP?**

- A. The SCP must accomplish all of the following:
- \* allow exploration of a passion that connects to student’s future
  - \* apply academic learning to a vocational, academic, or community interest
  - \* extend learning in a way that classroom instruction cannot
  - \* allow student to think analytically, logically, and creatively, and to integrate experience and knowledge to form reasoned judgments and solve problems

**Q. Who does the SCP?**

A. Anyone who wants to graduate with a diploma from Port Angeles High School. This includes students enrolled in the Running Start Program and/or taking classes at the North Olympic Skills Center.

**Q. What are the component parts of the SCP?**

- A. The components are
- \* Essential Question
  - \* Prospectus
  - \* Proclamation Poster
  - \* Project
  - \* I-Search Paper
  - \* Project Presentation

**Q. What are the SCP deadlines?**

A.

Prospectus	February of junior year
Proclamation Poster	May of junior year
Project Paper	December of senior year
Project Presentation	April and May of senior year

**Q. What are the safety and risk management guidelines?**

A. In the course of this project, no student shall ever attempt any action, activity or conduct that will put said student, other students and individuals, or animals in any endangerment, real or perceived. All activities and actions must be within the bounds of the law, without peril or endangerment.

Student projects that explore gray areas will need to contact Mr. Clark by the last day of March during the junior year to negotiate.

**Q. How will the SCP be implemented?**

A. At PAHS the SCP will be implemented in two phases.

**Phase I:** The discovery phase happens primarily in advisory during junior year. Students:

- \* explore careers and interests
- \* write an essential question that will drive the project
- \* submit a prospectus for review and authorization to proceed
- \* produce a proclamation poster that showcases the project components and shows how the student will answer his/her essential question.

**Phase II:** The execution phase happens primarily in English 12 during the senior year. Students:

- \* execute the project,

- \* document the project,
- \* write the I-search paper
- \* present the project.

Performance-based projects (composition of original music, play, film, the transformation of a car into a street rod, the production of a business plan) will require additional documentation.

**Q. What is an I-Search Paper?**

A. An I-Search paper is a personal research paper. It combines the practice of traditional research skills with the student’s own story about the search for the information and what the student learned about the topic. It is less formal than the traditional research paper and will be written using first person.

**Q. What support exists to help students?**

- A. There are several layers of support:
1. The students’ advisors, who will track the project timeline as well as monitor student progress, answer questions, etc.
  2. The English 12 teachers will be responsible for the following tasks:
    - \* instructing students in research
    - \* guiding students in producing proposals that are acceptable in their content and format
    - \* grading and recording research
    - \* requiring and recording each student’s documentation (logs, etc.)
    - \* communicating any SCP information with students
    - \* emailing all concerns about students to SCP Coordinator to be forwarded to the students’ advisors, the SCP Taskforce or the SCP Panel Members as appropriate.
  3. The SCP website which will have up-to-date information.
 

[www.portangelesschools.org/pahs/senior-culminating-project.html](http://www.portangelesschools.org/pahs/senior-culminating-project.html)

#### 4. Senior Culminating Project (SCP)

Coordinator will be responsible for the following tasks:

- \* providing organizational structures for the Senior Project
- \* preparing and updating the student database
- \* forwarding messages to students
- \* communicating with parents
- \* posting SCP information to Peninsula College
- \* designing and distributing a Senior Project progress report
- \* organizing Senior Project Day (assigning roles, inviting public, etc.)

#### Q. What if a student does not have an advisor or is not enrolled in English 12

A. There are several helps in place:

- ♦ The student can check the SCP website.
- ♦ The student can contact the SCP Coordinator.
- ♦ The student can contact the previous year's advisor or a current English 12 teacher.
- ♦ The student can request the PAHS bulletin be sent to his/her email address or check the bulletin board at Peninsula College.

#### Q. Does a student need a mentor?

A. Not necessarily, but it is always a good idea to have a person who is a professional in the field, who can review the work and verify its quality, and authenticity. This person need not meet with the student every week or act as the check for time management. It is the student's responsibility to find his/her own mentor, if they choose.

#### Q. Will the SCP affect my GPA?

A. The components of the SCP will be integrated into English 12 course work. This means that your performance on the SCP could impact both your grades in this class and your progress towards graduation.

#### Q. Do students have to complete all of the components meeting every standard, including the Presentation, to pass the SCP?

A. Yes. All parts of the SCP must all be completed "At Standard" and every standard within each component must be met.

#### Q. What if I miss the target completion dates?

A. Target dates are established to allow for timely response by instructors in order for students to be able to reach standard. Missing target dates means you will have to work harder to catch up. You want to have plenty of time to get feedback on your work so that you meet standard before the semester deadline and do not have to be nervous or pressured.

#### Q. What happens if I don't meet the requirements of the SCP but have passed all the required classes?

A. You do not graduate yet. You will be able to enroll in English 12 the following semester.

#### Q. Can I participate in commencement exercises if I have passed all my required classes but have not completed all the requirements for the SCP??

A. No. The SCP is a graduation requirement. All graduation requirements must be met before a student can participate in a commencement ceremony at PAHS

#### NOTE:

Students with special needs will be doing a Senior Culminating Project with appropriate accommodations.



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