**Senior Projects 2019**

**Guidelines, Requirements, and Deadlines**

All members of the senior class are required by the School to complete a senior project in order to graduate. Projects take the place of the academic day (8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.), and so they should be appropriately rigorous in terms of time and energy (approximately 30 hours/week). The four weeks allotted for Senior Projects represent an opportunity to engage in an edifying and fulfilling activity. Senior projects begin **Monday,** **May 6, 2019** and run through **Friday,** **May 31, 2019**. The presentation day for the projects is **Thursday,** **June 6, 2019**.

The following steps lead to the approval of your project by the Senior Projects Committee:

1. Design a project.
2. Choose a faculty advisor. For creative, non-internship projects, you may choose a faculty advisor who has expertise in the area in which you will be working. Faculty and staff members may sponsor no more than three projects, so you should seek out an advisor as soon as possible.
3. If your project is an internship, apprenticeship, or social justice/community engagement project with an off-campus organization, acquire an off-campus supervisor. You do not also need to have a faculty advisor.
4. Complete an online [Senior Project Proposal Google form](https://goo.gl/forms/roOsNxVLyi1DIEuQ2). Group project proposals are due **Monday, February 11, 2019**. Individual project proposals are due **Monday, March 4, 2019**.

**Your project must fit into one of the following categories:**

* **INTERNSHIP** — Projects of this sort include interning with a wide variety of business, artistic, educational, or government organizations. Consider also apprenticeships with chefs and photographers. A list of opportunities available through current Sidwell Friends School community members will be sent out to students in December 2018.
* **SOCIAL JUSTICE/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** — Projects in this area allow you to expand your involvement with community organizations. Work with organizations not ordinarily permitted by the school will be allowed as senior projects (e.g., a humane society).
* **INDEPENDENT STUDY**— Projects in this area include an academic study in a chosen field (producing a research-based work) or a study in the arts (such as, writing, directing, acting, performing a new piece on an instrument you already play, graphic design, intensive dance study, and/or producing an artistic oeuvre). If you wish to pursue an arts project, you should have prior training in the field. For an independent study, you must work with a faculty advor who will supervise you in your study and review your progress.

**INSTITUTIONAL GUIDELINES**

* Projects that have not been properly discussed with faculty advisors will not be accepted.
* Off-campus supervisors must be made aware of the requirements of your project. They must be willing to be responsible for your project, by overseeing it or engaging in the same activity for approximately six hours per day. Off-campus supervisors will be emailed on a weekly basis to complete a status report.
* Students must not be paid for project work.
* Projects must not involve travel outside the Washington, D.C. metro area.
* Projects must entail a minimum of 30 hours/week of work.
* Group projects are limited to three students. Each student in a group must hand in a separate proposal form, individually prepared, describing the project and their role in it. Each individual proposal must also contain an independent research component that outlines the work that each student will conduct within the group effort. (For example, if students are performing a play, each actor may also design a character study). Each member’s proposal will be considered individually. If a group of more than three is necessary for a project (a play, for example), the Committee may make exceptions.
* Projects must be conducted with minimal expense (no more than $300).
* Students preparing for AP Examinations must design a project that will allow them to attend the necessary classes to prepare for the examinations. Students may do fewer than six hours of work per day on their projects during the period in which they are attending AP classes. The time commitment to athletics (practices and games) is *not* counted towards the 6-hour daily project time.

**SENIOR PROJECT DEFENSE**

During the last week of senior projects or final exam week, seniors will meet with faculty panels in individual sessions for a brief 10-minute presentation and Q&A session.