

Senior Project Proposal

Requirements:

- Word processed (12 point font—Times New Roman)
- One inch margins
- Single space within each section; double space between sections
- Title each section, all caps
- Answer in paragraph form; not as a listing of responses
- Type your name and date in top left corner (only); updating with revisions

Use the following format:

OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND:

This section should explain the overall focus and scope of your proposed Senior Project and explain how you made your choice. Be sure to explain:

- what general area you have chosen to explore
- what previous experience or prior knowledge you have about this area of interest
- what attracts you to a project in this area
- what you hope to gain from this choice

PROJECT:

This section should focus on your project hours. Specifically:

- what it is that you want to learn to do that you don't presently know
- what you will spend your time doing
- what physical product you will be producing (what the judges will see at the presentation)
- how you propose to manage your time to complete the hours required
- approximately how much will this project cost and how you will pay for it

CHALLENGE:

This section should discuss how much challenge or “stretch” is involved in the project you propose. Be sure to explain:

- what will make this project choice a stretch or challenge for you
- how this project will be significantly more challenging than what you already know how to do
- how this project will keep you interested, stimulated, and actively engaged
- How this project may be risky, either in an emotional or a physical sense
- what you will do to go beyond the common, the usual, the ordinary (this response is particularly important if your project is in an area in which you are already knowledgeable.)

CAREER/COMMUNITY SERVICE CONNECTION:

This section should explain the career or community service aspect of your project. Explain:

- which connection it makes (career or community service)
- how it makes the connection
- what this adds to your project (what additional knowledge did you glean and how does it relate)

MENTOR:

Include:

- name, age, address, and phone number of your mentor
- your connection to your mentor
- what qualifies this person as a mentor in this area

Senior Project Proposal

Susie Smith

6 October 2003

OVERVIEW AND BACKGROUND:

I have always been interested in the general field of handicrafts. My grandmother and my mom always seem to get so much joy out of spending time working on projects which they can then give to loved ones or even sell at crafts fairs and garage sales. My interest, however, has never taken the direction of actual action. In fact, I've always been afraid to try craft projects, because I don't think I have great manual dexterity and I really don't like the painting and needlepoint my mom and grandmother do. Recently, however, I was admiring a friend's mother's sweater, and she mentioned she had knitted it herself. I was amazed that anyone could produce a wearable item from balls of yarn, and I realized that this was exactly the kind of Senior Project I would enjoy doing.

PROJECT:

I intend to learn how to knit for my Senior Project. My goal is to produce a simple sweater. My mentor has agreed to work with me an hour every afternoon. I anticipate spending more than the required 15 hours doing this project, as I am starting out just learning how to hold the needles and the yarn. I will also have to learn how to read a pattern, correct errors, and do whatever other sewing is necessary to turn my knitted pieces into a sweater.

CHALLENGE:

I think this will be a real challenge to me for several reasons. First, I have mentioned that manual dexterity is not the best of my skills. Secondly, there's a big difference between the initial squares of knitting that I will produce in the beginning and the shaped and formed pieces I will need to produce to make a sweater. Thirdly, I am a restless person who has trouble sitting still for long, so I expect that I will end up spending many short periods of work on this, rather than a few long extended periods of time. This project shouldn't be too expensive; I'll just need to buy the yarn, pattern, and needles that my mentor estimates will be under \$50. I have a part time job, so I'll be able to cover the cost myself without relying on my parents.

CAREER/COMMUNITY SERVICE CONNECTION:

When I finish my sweater, I will donate it to Paradise Hospice. I contacted them and suggested holding a raffle for the sweater. I will be in charge of the raffle, which will really just involve making tickets and setting up a display at the hospice shop. I'll have to collect the money and hold the actual drawing. I thought this would be very difficult, because I wanted to keep the sweater for myself after all that work. Once I talked to the hospice people I felt very differently. They provide a great service for our community and they rely strictly on donations. I didn't know how much they did and I'm really glad I found a way to help.

MENTOR:

My mentor will be the President of the Knitter's Knot Club, who has been knitting for 20 years and creates pieces for convalescent hospitals.

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