Grading

The senior project timeline is differentiated based on EACH INDIVIDUAL student's planned experience. Due to the individualized nature of this work, Synergy will be used to indicate final grades only. These will be posted at the beginning of May, 2025. Students will have monthly individual meetings with Mrs. Graves during which they will receive feedback regarding their individual performance. Students will also have access to a shared document through Google Drive that will indicate their grades on individual tasks associated with the senior project. At any time, beginning next October, students can share this document with their parents. The grade breakdown is as follows:

- Professionalism (15%)—Did this student honor meeting commitments, hours requirements, and deadlines?

- Daily Log or Literature Review (10%)—Did this student take notes or complete research that aided the completion of the senior project?

- Mentor/Expert Scientist Evaluation (10%)—Did the mentor or expert scientist have a positive experience with this student? (Rubric provided, see guidebook.)

- Product (14%)--Did this student follow guidelines provided on the product rubric?

- Portfolio and Community Appreciation Event Participation (5%)—Did this student honor the senior project experience by sharing it professionally with the community during the senior project gallery night? (Rubric provided prior to the event.)

- Formal Presentation (14%)—Did this student fulfill the presentation requirements as outlined on the rubric provided? (Rubrics published in the Livebinder during 2024-2025 school year.)

- Research Paper/I-Search Paper (32%)—Did this student submit a paper prepared for a specific audience? (research=competition; capstone=underclassman reading; rubrics published in the Livebinder during 2024-2025 school year.)

Senior Project
Quick Reference—
Class of 2025

The Process and Paperwork

Step One: Preparation and Proposals

After doing some background research and learning more about a topic or field, students should secure a mentor or expert scientist, interview that professional (interview forms found in guidebook), and write a proposal (template and samples found in the Livebinder). All proposals due no later than April 12, 2024. IRB meets for review on April 15th. Students will be notified by April 29th.

Step Two: Summer as Young Professionals

Capstone students spend no less than 30 hours shadowing a professional and keeping a journal (hours log found in Livebinder).

Research students complete a thorough literature review and start experimentation or product planning.

Both types of senior project students have check-in meetings during the summer. See the Livebinder in May for appointment sign-ups.

Step Three: Sharing With Others

Capstone students invest 30 hours on a product associated with what they've learned. Research students complete experimentation and prepare for competition. Both types of students write formal papers, create posters, and present to large audiences next March.

Resources and Where to Find Them

The Livebinder

The Livebinder is an on-line resource to which material will be added throughout the summer--and is easy to access from anywhere. Currently, you'll find the guidebook, forms needed for the project proposal, proposal templates and samples, and a timeline. In April, you'll find information about next steps, including how to format your shadowing journal, how to write a literature review, and links to the summer check-in appointment sign-up. Next year, we'll transition to a Canvas course, which will replace the Livebinder.

It's a great resource for parents to see what's happening with the senior project and for students to stay up-to-date. You can access the Class of 2024 binder at **https://bit.ly/MSA-2025** using the access key **MSA2025**.

Contact Information

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(Please email to arrange a Google Meet)