

SENIOR PROJECT FIELD WORK

WHAT IS FIELD WORK?

The field work component of the Senior Project must demonstrate a “learning stretch” and a physical product as evidence of such.

WHAT IS A LEARNING STRETCH?

A learning stretch indicates that you spent time outside of literary research to learn more about your topic. This is usually some activity in which you are actively (even physically) involved.

WHY DO I NEED A PHYSICAL PRODUCT?

Creating a product is beneficial in many ways:

1. By creating a product, you will gain hands-on experience in the area of your topic.
2. This experience is useful for demonstrating real-world experience on your resume.
3. The product may also be exhibited during your oral presentation
4. Creating a product will also create new meaning for you about your topic which may be included in your research or reflection paper.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Minimum of 15 hours outside of the classroom, excluding literary research for the research paper.
- Evidence of mentor involvement. A mentor is usually a professionally-trained and/or certified expert working in the field that you have chosen.
- A physical product
- A journal/log of the field work experience.

The “Project Log” form records times and dates:

Sample Entry – 11/26/09

Observed a 3rd grade class today from 1:45 to 2:30 p.m.

The “Reflection Journal” includes reflections about your thoughts and experiences during the field work. These should be written in standard paragraph form, represent beginning, middle and end of the experience, and be at least 2 double-spaced typed pages.

Sample Entry – 11/26/09

Today I spent time in Mrs. Engel’s class. The class learned about the Solar System. I thought that the activities were fun and interesting for the students because. . .

