

Capstone Project Application (2019-20)

Capstone Projects, a project-based course that is inspired by a student's particular interest and passion, are open only to 11th & 12th grade students who already have extensive knowledge in a subject matter or who would like to explore another intellectual topic in-depth. Students will undertake a self-directed study that demonstrates high levels of critical thinking, innovation and advanced level work beyond the current PCS offered curricula. While projects will be independently driven and will rely on the student to direct the course of study, students will work under the guidance of a discipline-specific faculty mentor and the Capstone Project Research and Methods Class. *Students may not be enrolled in more than one project at a time.*

Grading: Projects are graded on the A-F letter-scale, with one grade in each semester. Capstone Project grades will be based 50% on coursework, deadlines, attendance, and work habits in the Research & Methods Class and 50% on the final product, as assessed by the discipline-specific department evaluation at the end-of-the-year Exhibition. Projects are worth 5 units per semester, 10 units per year. Projects are considered elective credit, unless exceptions are granted by the Principal or IEP accommodations.

Application: The Capstone Project Application consists of your typed response to the three sections as listed below: Proposal, Timeline and Mentor. Submit your application **electronically** to pscapijstoneprojects@gmail.com. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, as space allows, through the end of the current school year. (The approval process is two-fold: applications will initially be reviewed by the Capstone Committee, where the committee will choose to either forward the application to the discipline-relevant department for review, or the committee may choose to request a revised application. Once an application passes the initial stage and is forwarded to the discipline-relevant department, the department will review the application and may choose to approve, approve with revisions or not approve the proposed project. Please note, only Capstone Projects that are approved by the department will be forwarded to the registrar for scheduling.)

I. Project Application: Proposal

Capstone project proposals will consist of short-answer responses to the following questions. Responses should be limited to one paragraph per question.

1. Describe the scope of your proposed project. What are the main features of your forthcoming work or proposed enterprise? What form will your project take? What will the final product look like? (Ex: internship, research paper, experiment, community service, performance/production, etc.)
2. What are the major goals of this project? What are you hoping to learn from undertaking this project? (If there is a community service aspect, explain the positive outcome or benefit that will come from this project.)
3. How does this proposed project go above and beyond what is offered in the regular class curricula at PCS?
4. What interests and inspires you about this project?

II. Project Application: Timeline

1. What specific work/activities will you need to complete for this project? As part of your response, establish a basic timeline for the successful completion of your project. Do you foresee needing to begin work over the summer? Why or why not?

Contact Mr. Perera (nirshan.perera@pcsed.org) and/or Mr. Hunt (jamalhunt@gmail.com) with any questions.

III. Project Application: Discipline & Mentor

1. Under which discipline would you categorize your project? Choose one: English, History, Math, Science, Language, Visual/Performing Arts, Interdisciplinary: _____
2. **Name of PCS Faculty Mentor:** All projects require a PCS faculty mentor; please make sure that you request their assistance on this project before submitting your application. (Securing a faculty mentor does not automatically guarantee approval of your project, however, a project will not be considered without a mentor.)

Name: _____

3. **Off Campus Advisor/Mentor Information:** Are you considering an additional off-site mentor/advisor? If so, what is his/her name and contact information? Note: Off-campus advisor must agree to provide regular updates to the PCS mentor as well as the Research & Methods teacher.

Off-Campus Advisor : _____ Position: _____

Phone #: _____ Email _____