

Springfield Township High School
Senior Thesis Seminar
Final Thesis Project Expectations and Guidelines: Virtual Presentation
DUE DATE: FRIDAY, JUNE 4, 2021

Objective(s):

The **final thesis presentation** provides each student the opportunity to present a synthesis of semester knowledge and understanding of a select topic of interest and passion through research exploration, as well as to integrate presentation skills and strategies gained from semester learning experiences.

Each student will present a culminating presentation that will bring together research annotation work from across (10) complete resources used in a visual and oral presentation using **Google Slides** and **Screencastify and/or WeVideo** as the webcam delivery medium. Or, you may use whichever screencast recording platform works best for your final presentation, as long as your webcam appears as part of the presentation.

Students will support their curated **thesis** using evidence from across their research work and documentation from procured resources used over the semester. This presentation is the final step in your culminating thesis work development.

Final Presentation Components/Requirements: *(to be placed in your Senior Thesis Portfolio)*

- 1) Completion of **(10) Research Annotations** for resources used. This collection should be a cross-representation of academic and scholarly resources used in connection with your topic.
- 2) Completion of **Thesis Argument Organizer** using evidentiary support from across research annotation work. This outline should include your curated thesis statement, sub-topics (5-7), and evidence/explanations from your annotation work to support those developed sub-topics.
- 3) **Google Slide Presentation:** (40-50 content slide minimum) including speaker notes and proper image/research attribution under each slide. Image(s) used should have complete citation in speaker notes and information in speaker notes should contain proper in-text documentation. Your presentation must include a title page with your name/class/block/teacher/date
- 4) **Works Cited** (required) and **Works Consulted** (if applicable) pages for *research* sources and *images* at the end of your presentation. Must be in proper MLA alphabetized format. Works Cited slides should contain no more than (8) citations on each slide, proper attribution and MLA format, image citations included on separate slides, alphabetized.
- 5) **Acknowledgments Page** (for those who have helped you along the way!) with your research, resources, visual work, peer editing/reviewing, presentation feedback, service work assistance, etc.
- 6) **Webcam Recording:** Students are required to record a 15-20 minute presentation of their final thesis presentation using **Screencastify and/or WeVideo** as the delivery method. Or, use whichever screencast w/ webcam recording platform works best for your final presentation.

- 7) Students should properly prepare for this recording through practice and problem-solving any technical issues beforehand (i.e. loading video clips, importing all images, proofreading text, etc.). Students should appear as professional students in the recording and present themselves as “experts” in their field.

Presentation Strategies: Visual Slides

Limit information on slide

- Focus on the primary ideas and limit the amount of information on the visual.
- Make each visual a hint, not the whole story.
- One main point per visual
- Keep text to a minimum and add a visual component to enhance communication.
- No bullets
- Appropriate titles and text elements
- Use Google Slide Animation for added quality of delivery

Make information legible and readable

- Use serif or sans serif fonts. No cutesy, curly fonts.
- Keep font consistent.
- Use text large enough to be read without effort. Text should not be less than 24 point.
- Use a combination of uppercase and lowercase lettering for easier reading.
- No underlining.
- To emphasize a word or phrase, change the colors, type, size, and/or weight of the text.
- Text and graphics must be clearly seen when superimposed on any background.
- Make sure there is a high contrast between the foreground and background colors so the text and graphics are readable.

Keep design simple and consistent

- Do not use animations or transitions except in a “string” of slides (builds/progression)
- Use color to emphasize, highlight, organize, and prioritize.
- Be careful which colors you use together.
- Keep the color scheme consistent throughout your presentation. Don’t change color schemes with each slide.
- Keep visuals as simple as possible. Complex visuals decrease readability and increase confusion.
- Keep page elements consistent. For example, use the same colors and keep the page elements in the same locations from slide to slide.
- Use C.R.A.P in your design approach: CONTRAST, REPETITION, ALIGNMENT, and PROXIMITY
- Refer back to "[Steal this Presentation](#)" by Jesse Dee for your reference

Proofread, preview, and practice

- Proofread, proofread, and proofread... and then have someone else proofread for you.
- Preview your slides on the computer you will use for your presentation
- Practice your presentation in front of an audience!

Presentation Strategies: Delivery

Eye Contact

- Make eye contact with your audience as best as you can (using the virtual delivery method)
- Do not read directly from notes or cards (refer to when necessary, but look up to speak). Try to appear as natural as possible.

Posture/Body Movement

- Try to appear as relaxed as possible. Practicing and rehearsing will help with this.
- Allow hands to move naturally in the frame of the screen. This can be achieved through simple movements to build comfort with the recording of your presentation
- Keep hands out of hair (pull back if necessary)
- Do not sway or move awkwardly in your webcam recording

Voice

- Keep voice conversational but purposeful
 - Use intonation and inflection
 - Not too fast, not too slow
- Pronounce words properly (practice!)
- Speak loud enough for audience to hear the recording
- Enunciate words properly
- Present as if you are in front of an audience. This is a performance...make it special.
- Be focused, be present, be intentional!

Webcam Recording:

- Go to Screencastify.com and wevideo.com
- Create an account using Google Sign-in with school email (if not done already!)
- Watch these **SCREENCASTING TOOL TUTORIALS** (from our very own Ms. Roberts-Reilley) on how to use these screencasting resources:

[Screencastify Part I](#) (5 min recording limit)

[Screencastify Part II](#)

[WeVideo](#)

Special Note: please keep in mind that if you are using Screencastify (5-minute time limit per recording), you will need to string together multiple recordings using WeVideo as your editing tool (see above). Students in the past have also had success using WeVideo as the primary recording tool for their webcam performance.

Use the attached form to help you best prepare and practice for your webcam performance:

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Final Presentation Practice and Preparation (continued)

AUDIENCE MEMBER

Name: _____

I watched this student's entire presentation and provided honest critical (positive and negative) feedback on this form.

Signature: _____

TIME

Begin Time: _____

End Time: _____

Presentation Length: _____

PRESENTATION FEEDBACK

Introduction

Which method of introduction does the presenter use?

Tell a story

Relate Issue to Audience

Statistic or Fact

Does the introduction capture your interest?

Is a clear purpose conveyed?

Organization

Is material clearly organized?

Are transitions between sections clear and effective?

Does the organization lead to a clear thesis and conclusion?

Content

Does the presenter clearly communicate all topics?

Does the presenter provide supporting evidence for all arguments? (If not, please indicate areas of

presentation where presenter lacks supporting evidence)

Does the presenter provide oral attribution for all statistics, research findings, and controversial information?

(If not, please indicate areas of presentation where presenter lacks attribution)

Delivery

Does the presenter appear natural, enthusiastic?

Does the presenter speak clearly?

Does the presenter use formal language? (no slang!)

Does the presenter avoid using like, um, “you know”?

Eye Contact

- Does the presenter make eye contact with the audience?
- Does the presenter avoid reading notes or cards?
- Does the presenter seem engaged?

Posture/Body Movement

- Does the presenter appear professional and purposeful?
- Does the presenter allow hands to move naturally?
- Does the presenter avoid awkward and/or distracting motions?

Voice

- Does the presenter keep voice conversational?
 - Use intonation and inflection?
 - Not too fast, not too slow?
- Does the presenter pronounce words properly?
- Does the presenter speak loud enough for the audience to hear?
- Does the presenter enunciate words properly?

General Comments

(Please include any other suggestions for improvement or practice below.) Thank you!