



Senior Seminar Course Syllabus

Course Description:

In senior seminar, we will complete college applications, scholarship applications, evaluate college acceptances, analyze financial aid packages, and ultimately, help students and families make a decision about the best post-secondary option for each individual student. We will also create action plans to support students' rigorous course load, plan senior-specific events, and discuss current events (specifically related to higher education and skills they need for life).

Standards Assessed in this course:

Students will complete an Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) portfolio and presentation, in line with Colorado Department of Education Counseling indicators. These indicators are:

- **Self-Awareness:** Understand how one's unique interests, talents, and aspirations play a role in decision-making and interpersonal relationships and how individual thoughts and feelings get students excited about life and learning.
- **Career Awareness:** Know the difference between jobs, occupations, and careers. Articulate a wide range of local regional, national, and global career pathways and opportunities. Consider economic and cultural influences and the impact of stereotypes on career choice.
- **Postsecondary Aspirations:** Participate in career exploration activities centered on students' passions, interests, dreams, and visions of their future self and perceived options.
- **Postsecondary Options:** Be aware of and participate in a variety of postsecondary and career opportunities. Use tools such as career clusters, personality assessments, and learning style inventories to highlight individual strengths and capabilities.
- **Environmental Expectations:** Consider how school, family, community, culture, and world view might influence the students' career development and postsecondary plans.
- **Academic Planning:** Apply the skills and knowledge necessary to map out and pass the academic courses required to achieve postsecondary goals.
- **Employability Skills:** Define, develop, and hone skills that increase the likelihood of becoming and remaining successfully employed and civically responsible citizens.
- **Financial Literacy:** Recognize personal financial literacy and financial aid topics and vocabulary and know what options are available to pay for postsecondary. Understand and articulate personal financial literacy concepts, the cost of postsecondary options and apply this awareness to the postsecondary career and academic planning process.

Daily Class Material:

- CHARGED computer
- Pen or pencil

Grading:

- 70% of the grade reflects mastery of standards on assessments such as tests, projects, papers, presentations.



- 30% of the grade reflects mastery of academic habits such as engaging in classwork and homework that leads to mastery of academic standards.

Course Policies and Procedures:

General Work: Most of our work will support students in working towards our school-wide goals of 95% of seniors graduating and being accepted to a four-year university.

- Students will be evaluated on the quality of their ICAP portfolios, goal setting, and ability to meet deadlines.
- Students will be expected to track progress towards their goals through Naviance and a [tracking template](#).
- Work will be completed and turned in on Google Classroom and Naviance.

Communication: The college application and decision process can be very confusing, and for this reason, students will have support outside of the Senior Seminar class via email or text, or through a scheduled, in-person meeting. All communication from students should be professional and should occur under the following guidelines.

- Email: Any time, expect a response within 24 hours
- Text: 7:00 AM-9:00 PM; expect a response ASAP, no responses during the school day
- Meetings: Schedule via email, text, or in-person during College Readiness club time
- Families: Family members are welcomed and encouraged to come to join students in class at any time, especially on days during which we work on applications. There are likely going to be times during the school day that a student will need to contact a family member to get application information. This will happen with permission from Ms. Brown, and at her discretion.