

UHS Senior Project General Overview

Congratulations to the Class of 2025! We are excited to see you finish your senior year strong and to see what your future holds. The mission of UCFSD is to “**empower each student to succeed in life and contribute to society.**” This year, you have the opportunity to showcase how your experience within UCFSD has prepared and shaped you for your next journey. You will do this by completing a senior project. This project will include two parts. First, you will develop a senior presentation that highlights the points of the UCFSD Portrait of a Graduate. Second, you will share with someone in our community how they have impacted your life by participating in our “Sincerely, Seniors” event in May.

Part 1: Senior Portrait Project and Presentation

Each senior will choose a staff mentor they will meet with on a scheduled basis. The staff mentor’s role is to guide the student through the assignments and final presentation. (See Timeline and Assignment details on the next page)

Senior Project Overview

- Review the five points of the Portrait of a Graduate below and reflect on how each point has impacted your time at UCFSD and prepared you for the future. The Portrait of a Graduate is linked [here](#).
- Create a 10-minute presentation that reflects all five points of the star based on your project you have chosen..
- You will present to at least 4-5 people in the UHS community during quarter four. You will choose your staff mentor. All staff mentors must be chosen by October 25th, 2024. Presentations may be scheduled during a class time to present in front of the class or during Lunch and Learn. If you choose to present during Lunch and Learn, at least 4-5 others need to be invited to view as well as your mentor.
- You may present in whatever format you choose. Examples may include:
 - Google Slide Presentation
 - Write a song, poem, or musical act
 - Share a video
 - Create a piece of artwork
 - The ideas are endless....
- Use your creativity, showcase your talents, and share with everyone aspects of your journey through UCFSD and how this has prepared you for the future.

Part 2: “Sincerely, Seniors” Letter

Think about who has impacted your life positively during your time at UCFSD. Then, write a thank you note to staff who’ve helped you along the way. This person must be a member of the UCFSD staff. It could be your kindergarten teacher, bus driver, custodial staff, or anyone else who has made a positive impact on you. We will send the date of the event and provide all the materials needed to write your letter, so stay tuned!

Timeline and Assignment Details

Each senior will choose a staff mentor they will meet with on a scheduled basis. The staff mentor's role is to guide the student through the assignments and final presentation. (See Timeline and Assignment details below)

September 11th, 2024 Senior Project Overview during English classes in the LGI

- Seniors view Introduction to Senior Project from Senior Project Coordinator.

Assignment 1: Identify and Secure Staff Mentor _____ Deadline October 25th, 2024

- Seniors may ask any member of the Unionville High School staff. This person can be a teacher, paraprofessional, or any other employee of the high school. Please refer to the page linked below for advice on how to ask a Senior Project Mentor.
 - [How do I ask for a Senior Project Mentor?](#)
- If students need help seeking out a mentor, they should contact Mrs. Porco, Senior Project Coordinator.

Assignment 2: Marking Period Check-In with Senior Project Mentor from November 1-March 27

- The student is responsible for completing a check-in by the end of each marking period. The senior mentor will be responsible for verifying each meeting in a google sheet. Noelle Porco will share the google sheet with each senior project mentor.
 - Marking Period 2- Brainstorm and Topic/idea
 - Marking Period 3- Brainstorm and Outline

Assignment 3: Complete Project and Presentation _____ from March 28-May 30

- The student will present during the fourth marking period to the senior project mentor. The presentation should represent all five points of the Portrait of a Graduate. The student may showcase their presentation in any format they choose and may invite other people to the presentation. The presentation, demonstration, or performance will be no longer than ten (10) minutes in length with up to an additional ten (10) minutes devoted to follow up questions from staff mentors.
- The student will post their final presentation in Canvas.
- The senior project mentor will verify completion of the final project in the shared google sheet.

Important Information:

Seniors will complete all assignments and attend all meetings according to the project timeline. Mentor Check In and Final Presentations are the responsibility of the student to schedule with the Senior Project Mentor. On the presentation day, the senior will present, demonstrate, or perform for the Senior Project Mentor. The student may invite other people to the presentation.

Grading

The project is graded on a Pass/Fail basis. The senior will earn a grade ("P" or "F") for each assignment. The student must earn a "P" for each assignment in order to earn a final "P" for the project.

Student Responsibilities

Seniors must attend all scheduled meetings. Seniors who do not attend all meetings and/or do not complete assignments on time risk failure. Seniors who fall behind on the deadlines will be assigned additional responsibilities by the Senior Project Advisor to help ensure the completion of this project.

Portrait of a Graduate

Points of Emphasis: Your Senior Project should reflect each of the following points. Listed below are questions to help guide your planning process.

BE INSPIRED TO LEARN: The joy of learning is a lifelong process. Think about an early learning experience you had that truly required you to be a critical thinker and use your problem-solving skills.

- *What knowledge and skills did you acquire through this experience that empowered and encouraged you to become more curious in future learning experiences? How will you continue to be a critical thinker, use your problem-solving skills, and stay curious as you learn, grow to pursue your passions? How will you apply what you've learned about your skill sets to seek a better understanding of the world around you?*

SUCCEED IN LIFE: Every journey to success is personal and unique. No matter your path, there are valuable life skills that will help unlock your potential. Skills such as collaborating well with others, communicating effectively, and demonstrating leadership and teamwork are critical components to successfully navigate life, both on a professional and personal level. Reflect upon your educational journey and path toward academic and personal success.

- *What life skills have you found to be most helpful in your journey? Example? How will these skills serve you well in all settings throughout your professional and personal life? How will these life skills and your strengths be used to contribute to society?*

BUILD YOUR CHARACTER: Strong character is admired and respected. Have high standards for your own character and set an example for others. Be ethical and act with integrity. Build resilience and hold yourself accountable for your actions. Treat others with respect and empathy, and always remember that kindness matters.

- *Provide an example of a time when you faced an ethical dilemma and held true to your own personal standards regardless of what other people were doing. Describe a random act of kindness that you witnessed that inspired you. What obstacles did you face during your high school experience that pushed you to be resilient and accountable? How will you use these skills in the future? Discuss a time when kindness allowed you to look at a situation differently. What did you learn from that experience?*

TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF: Your personal health and wellness are essential. Find balance in all aspects of your life and tend to your physical, mental, and social-emotional needs. Lean on your support systems and accept help when needed. Strive for lifelong health and happiness.

- *How have you enhanced your health and wellness during high school? Provide examples. Who are your support systems and what forms of communication work best for you when you are in need? What coping strategies have you found for yourself to help you manage periods of stress and how will you incorporate these strategies in the future? How will you incorporate health and wellness into the next phase of your life?*

CONTRIBUTE TO SOCIETY: Opportunities to make a difference are all around you. Understand your ties to the community, and embrace your civic responsibilities within it. Engage in civil discourse, especially with those whose perspectives differ from your own. Have compassion for others and give back to your community in meaningful ways.

- *In what ways have you been involved in your community? What have you learned from conversations with people who have different perspectives than you? Explain how this will help you in future conversations. Describe a time when you were in a situation where you felt that you were a "minority" and describe how that changed your perspective and actions moving forward. How will you use what you have learned to continue to give back to your community and show compassion for others?*