

THE GRADUATION PROJECT

In-Depth Exploration



The Graduation Project at City High weaves together a deep exploration of an area of student interest with in-depth research and active engagement in a real-world experience.

Successful completion of the Graduation Project course requirements are required to earn a City High diploma and walk across the stage.

Who completes the graduation project?

In both the junior and senior years, students take a one-semester graduation project course that supports their progress in completing their project.



What are the course requirements for the successful completion of the Graduation Project?

Junior Year**

- Weekly Independent Learning Grade
- Letter of intent
- Annotated Bibliography
- Notes demonstrating in-depth research
- Literature Review rough draft

Senior Year

- Weekly Independent Learning Grade
- Written Action Project Proposal
 - Level of active participation in real-world experience
 - Final Draft of Literature Review
- Blog detailing independent work
- Action project
- Presentation to a panel of judges through slideshow or poster session
- Final Reflection

What is an Action Project?

The Action Project component of the Graduation Project provides the student with an opportunity to take their project further than academic study and to explore their topic of choice through a "real-world" application. The Action Project requires the student to be an active participant in a real-world experience relevant to their topic. The project must connect to the student's topic and essential question, drawing heavily from the student's in-depth research and growing expertise with the

topic. In order to execute a quality Action Project, students will create an Action Plan that provides a detailed timeline and necessary materials for completion. The

Action Project is assessed on relevance to topic, community interaction, and the student's independent follow-through of the plan.

What are some examples of successful graduation project action projects?

- **African American Theater**—Orchestrate a Black Theater Showcase
- **Poverty & Homeless**—Hold a food drive to benefits Pittsburgh food banks
- **Fashion Design**—Create fashion for Andy Warhol Museum Teen Invasion fashion show
- **Race and Teen Self Esteem**—Lead a teen summit on race and identity
- **Gun Legislation**—Complete a social media campaign to change gun legislation
- **Breast Cancer**—Lead a team for the Light the Night Walk for cancer research

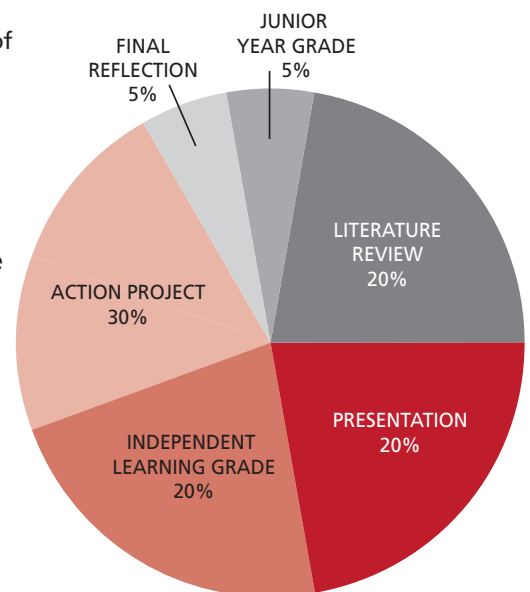
What methods are used to present the project to the judges?

Students must present their graduation project research to a group of judges. This includes presenting their research, relevant primary sources, interview, action project, and multimedia. Students will choose to create either an electronic presentation or an academic poster.

How is the final grade determined?

Senior Year Final Grade must be 70% or above

- 5% Junior Year Grade
- 20% Literature Review
- 20% Presentation
- 20% Independent Learning Grade
- 30% Action Project
- 5% Final Reflection



** Junior year final grade is 5% of senior year grade.