

Field Experience

The field experience is based on choosing, designing, and developing a product, project, or service related to your interest while connecting it to the community or to the workforce.

The field experience may come in a variety of forms. You must also connect your topic of interest to at least two of the following: Academic, Community Service, or Career. This will help insure that your interest can be connected not only to the academic, but also to the community in which you live.

Field Experience cannot be:

1. An extracurricular activity you already are participating in.
2. Your job that you are currently employed at.
3. Something you are already proficient at or do already on a regular basis.
4. A class you are enrolled in at LHS or college.

Examples of possible projects-all projects are dependent upon approval of government teacher

The Senior Project could be any of the following examples:

- A physical product: painting and selling your work, modeling for an agency, fashioning designs, creating computer program(s), rebuilding engines, constructing cabinets.
- A written product: short story, book of poetry, novelette, published articles, periodical, photographs
- A performance: dance or music recital, drama production, music video, fashion show
- A teaching or leadership experience: teach junior high health classes about teen alcoholism, teach about knights and armor to a middle school class, coach a little league team, or organize and hold a sports camp
- A physical experience: learn to scuba dive, organize/run a marathon, start a fitness program and train others, earn a brown belt in karate while training another to a white
- A career-related project: —shadow a police officer, view medical procedures, interview people in the airline field and prepare a manuscript on the subject
- A technology project: develop a home page on the World Wide Web, computer generated images or movies, photography and photo editing for an organized event

As you prepare for the field experience portion of your senior project, please take time **BEFORE YOU BEGIN** to read through the forms in their entirety. Make certain that you understand what is expected of you during this time, and what documents you will be responsible for upon completion.

It is recommended that before you begin your field experience, you complete a detailed analysis of your field experience. This analysis should include the steps/tasks necessary to complete the experience on time, as well as any costs that may be incurred.

Breaking this portion of your project into definable steps will make the process much easier. Setting up a timeline will help you begin, and will assist you in continuing to make progress throughout the time allotted for your field experience. Figuring out how much the field experience is going to cost may keep you from running into problems later in the project.

As you move through your field experience you will be responsible for keeping a record of your time invested, and your experiences in a 'field experience in-process log.'

You will enlist the assistance of a community mentor. A mentor for the senior project should be chosen with great care since the mentor oversees the field experience and is the expert in the field you are exploring. This mentor can help direct you to resources, figure out problems associated with your field experience, and assist you in whatever ways you two agree upon. This person should have significant experience in the area you are studying.

The Mentor provides three essential services for you.

1. Guides you through the project phase
2. Helps you organize information and gain experience in the field chosen
3. Signs both the community mentor information and final project verification forms

The Mentor also:

1. Must be at least 21 years of age
2. May not be an immediate family member
3. May not be a faculty member at LHS
4. Must be willing to help you on a volunteer basis
5. Will sign the appropriate forms

The following steps must be completed (in order):

- Completion of the Project Approval Form with all required signatures
- Once you have determined what your field experience will be, you will select a Community Mentor with the assistance of your government teacher and your faculty advisor.
- Your faculty advisor is only working in a support role and final approval of community mentor will be given by your government teacher.
- Confirm the Community Mentor's willingness to help you and set up an initial meeting with that mentor to complete the Community Mentor Contact form. At this meeting, you will set up a subsequent meeting to review your task and cost analyses.
- Complete 15 hours of work on your field experience and the appropriate time and reflection logs along the way.
- When you have completed your field experience have your community mentor fill out the Project Verification form and either mail back to the school or return to you.

Documents that will be submitted for evaluation:

- Project Approval Form
- Community Mentor Contact Form
- Community Mentor Project Verification Form
- Field Experience In-process Log with required logged hours, and descriptions.

Student Name _____

Summer Field Experience

My signature confirms that I have carefully read the Senior Project Requirements, and I have made note of any questions I have for discussion.

My signature confirms I discussed my field experience with a parent or guardian and they are aware of the Field Experience Requirements.

My signature confirms I discussed my field experience with my counselor and they are aware of my plan.

I understand that if I make any false statements about my field experience or misrepresent any signatures or contact with my community mentor, I can receive a failing grade for my senior project.

This form is due to Mr. Dougherty in Room B7 WITH ALL SIGNATURES before the last day of school

If, at any time, you want to change your senior field experience after this form has been submitted, you will need to resubmit a new project approval form, complete with all required signatures. You are also required to turn in a project approval form in the fall that includes your research paper topic and English 12 teacher approval.

Clearly describe your plans for your field experience.

List ideas for possible community mentors. (*Remember that your community mentor needs to be a person who is knowledgeable in your field of study. Also note that your community mentor CANNOT be a close family member.*)

Describe how will this project be a new and meaningful challenge for you?

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Counselor signature (indicating approval of field experience focus). A signature is required here and must be obtained BEFORE any hours are completed.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

IMPORTANT NOTE TO PARENTS:

Despite its status as a graduation requirement, the senior project need not cost any more than a typical school project. Lewiston High School is not responsible for funding any expense incurred during your child's senior project. While projects may require some expense, the high school encourages students to work within their means. During the planning phase, students will be encouraged to develop a reasonably accurate estimate of costs, a guaranteed source for those funds, and parents are asked to plan accordingly.

Your signature below indicates that you understand and approve of your child's topic choice. It also indicates that you have seen the required approval signature of your child's counselor. If your child has NOT obtained signature, please do NOT sign here until they have done so.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ **Date** _____