UNIVERSITY of HAWAI'I' WEST O'AHU

Senior Project Guidelines

The senior project is intended to be the students culminating scholastic effort or capstone experience at the University. The objectives of the senior project are to refine communication skills, as well as to develop research and information retrieval skills, and other related academic competencies. Although the senior project is usually in a student's concentration, students may select topics that require multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary study.

PROCESS

- 1. The senior project will be undertaken when a student has reached senior standing.
- 2. Students must have the approval and signature of their senior project faculty prior to registering for the senior project class. If a course request is for more than three (3) credits, additional justification and approvals are required.
- 3. With the assistance of faculty, students should begin preparing the senior project proposals during the semester prior to enrollment in the course, if possible.
- 4. Students must complete all prerequisites before registering for senior project courses unless exceptions are given by the discipline.
- 5. Senior project courses must adhere to writing intensive guidelines. Faculty who teach or supervise senior projects at UH West O'ahu must fulfill writing intensive course designation requirements, including completing Writing Intensive Orientation.
- 6. Students and faculty should agree on (a) a well-defined set of goals and objectives, (b) scheduled meeting times, and (c) section and/or draft due dates before beginning work on the projects. These agreements may be in the form of syllabi or written contracts.
- 7. Faculty who facilitate Senior Project courses should be on the onset of being assigned a Senior Project course need to be mentored by a senior faculty member from their division.
- 8. Senior Project students and faculty should hold a minimum of eight structured meetings during a semester.
- 9. Students should work closely with faculty during all phases of the senior project. Responsibility for completion of the work rests with the students.
- 10. Students must submit a minimum of one outline and one draft of the senior project to the senior project class instructor (and the supervising faculty member when that faculty member is different from the class instructor) before submitting final papers.
- 11. Grades should be based on the following guidelines:
 - a. At least 40% of the grade on a written product, per writing-intensive guidelines
 - b. At least 10% of the grade on the oral presentation
- 12. When the senior project is taught as a class and when students work with a supervising faculty member different from the senior project class instructor, the grade will be given by the senior project class instructor in consultation with the supervising faculty member.

PRODUCT

- 1. An original project related to a particular problem or issue.
- 2. Oral presentations