

# Stonington High School 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Summer Assignment



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# The Stonington High School Incoming Senior Summer Assignment

## **Purpose:**

The mission of Stonington High School is to foster a lifelong pursuit of learning. The summer is the perfect time to extend the classroom beyond the confines of Stonington High School. Our expectation is that our students will engage in meaningful, authentic learning experiences that they will share with their classmates at the start of each school year. It is in this spirit that Stonington High School has transitioned from a Summer Reading Assignment to a new Summer Learning Experience that will incorporate the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning Expectations embedded in our traditional classroom learning.

## **Learning Expectations:**

Stonington High School expects that our graduates will use the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills to:

- 1. Convince:** Use critical thinking skills and a variety of relevant evidence to solve a problem, support a position, or present an idea.
- 2. Communicate:** Use content area language clearly to convey ideas as an individual. Communicate with others in a way that facilitates a collaborative process.
- 3. Consider:** Use all learning to develop innovative and/or creative options to solve challenging situations and/or problems.
- 4. Connect:** Use technology to find, evaluate, create and/or share information, ethically and legally. Connect all learning to become a participative member in the social and civic community.

## **Overview:**

Each year Stonington High School students will report on a learning experience related to an assigned 21st CLE. Each grade level will be responsible for addressing one of the 4Cs as identified below. We want our students to use their sense of exploration and personal interaction with the world around them to choose how they will meet the expectations of their 4C. Students entering their senior year should refer to the Senior Project materials to determine their summer assignment.

Students must document their experiences. However, students also have a choice regarding how they do this. A list of possible means for documentation has also been attached to this packet. Upon returning to school in August, students will be expected to present their Summer Assignment work in their Advisory rooms to their classmates.

## **Presentation Suggestions:**

- The Summer Assignment is meant to provide students with options. Please take the time to review the suggested learning experiences and modes of documentation carefully. Students should choose activities that interest them.
- Students are encouraged to complete these activities with family, friends, and classmates. We hope families will actively participate in some of these activities with their students.
- We encourage students to come up with their own ideas for learning experiences and activities. If you have questions regarding a potential idea, please contact the principal.
- Please exercise common sense and good judgment when completing the Summer Assignment. Students and families should discuss the Summer Assignment and plan learning experiences together. Safety and proper supervision are the responsibility of the student's parents/guardians.

## **NOTES:**

- All SHS students are expected to complete the Summer Assignment.
- Students taking Advanced Placement/ECE or some Honors courses may be required to complete additional summer assignments.

## --Senior Project Progress Report--

Congratulations you are now a senior! One expectation of a senior is to demonstrate your ability to manage your time and talents to complete all tasks that you are assigned. Your Senior Project is one project that assesses your ability to follow a timeline and complete a task. Your summer assignment is to plan out and start your project.

Your summer assignment is to report on your plan and progress. Keep in mind; at this time you may not have much progress. You will use the 4Cs to present share with your advisory your plan and receive feedback from your peers.

**Convince:** Share your Senior Project Plan and convince your peers how your plan supports the learning stretch required for your senior project.

**Consider:** Share aspects of the project and share concerns/obstacles that must be considered.

**Connect:** Appropriately use technology to share the research you have done to plan your project.

**Communicate:** You will present your project to your peers during the first week of school. The method of which you share your project is your choice.

**Assessment:** During the first week of school, you will present your project in your advisory group. Your presentation should meet the standards listed below.

<b>Senior Project Summer Assignment Rubric</b>	
<b>Criteria - Connect</b>	<b>Meets Standard</b>
<b>Convince:</b> Plan to Support a Position or Present an Idea	Create a plan before you try to convince your audience. Convince your audience that the plan supports the learning stretch required for your project.
<b>Consider:</b> Think	Shows understanding of the fieldwork necessary to complete the Senior Project. Summarizes the challenges posed to complete your project. Identifies the desired outcome.
<b>Connect:</b> Create/Share via technology	Makes strategic use of digital media and/or visual display of data to effectively communicate as required by the task, purpose, and/or audience.
<b>Criteria COMMUNICATE (Individual)</b>	<b>Meets Standard</b>
Organize Ideas	Organizes ideas and/or information in a structure that shows a logical progression of ideas from beginning to end
Exhibit Fluency	Uses language that is generally appropriate for the audience and purpose.

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