

# Senior Defense Map and Guidelines for 2017-2018

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## Driving Question:

How do we know we are ready for college and careers?

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## Rationale:

As the workplace in the 21st century becomes increasingly competitive, American students need to be able to brand and market themselves as skilled and qualified individuals. This four year project will take students through the process of self reflection by identifying and organizing high quality examples (artifacts) of work in all five of our SWLOs (written communication, oral communication, agency, knowledge and thinking, collaboration). Students will create a professional portfolio of their best work in the form of a personal website and a written defense, and defend their readiness to graduate and move on to college and careers.

## Why Portfolios?

The portfolio is the capstone for the student's academic experience at Central Coast New Tech High. As the students are developing their portfolio, it becomes the driving force for the development and measurement of the school wide learning outcomes, a set of skills critical to success in postsecondary education and the workplace. The portfolio also provides a clear means for students to express their goals, growth, skills, and interests to the world in a professional manner. Furthermore, evaluation of the portfolio by staff, peers, parents, and community members serves as a vehicle for strengthening partnerships with the school.

## Why a Defense?

A defense focuses on students understanding content knowledge, learned skills, and reflecting on their own learning process and the utilization of that knowledge. This also allows student to utilize two skills needed for any workplace - writing and speaking. Both of these are part of our School Wide Learning Outcomes.

## How Does it Work?

The development of the professional portfolio content will begin Freshman year in Research & Communications. It will be updated and further developed throughout Advisory, electives, and Senior English. This year, Senior year, your focus will be in the 1st and 4th quarter of Advisory, and year-round in English 12/ERWC. The Professional Portfolio and Defense is our capstone activity that pulls *knowing*, *doing*, and *reflecting* into one place, into one moment. It is the final inquiry, the final essential question, the final exhibition...a culmination of a 4-year project.

## Project Overview:

### **The Final Phase of the Professional Portfolio... the DEFENSE**

Phase 4 - 12th Grade      Written Defense  
                                         Website Portfolio  
                                         Defense of Learning Presentation

#### **What You Are Defending... Your Learning**

Students choose **two complete projects** (also referred to as “artifacts”) to focus on, and must explain **three of the five SWLOs** that they were assessed on. Students choose one project from Freshman/Sophomore year, and one from Junior/Senior year.

Both projects must have been graded on at least three SWLOs, otherwise it is not eligible for the Defense. The focus is to **reflect on the depth of understanding of the material**, as well as the **analysis of the student’s learning and growth** throughout the project.

Students have the option to present a third artifact, an **Extra** - involvement with sports, a single assignment related to their projected career path, community involvement, club, theatre, ASB, etc. This is something that must be approved by Ms. Mitchell directly.

There are three parts to the entire Portfolio - 1) the website, 2) the written defense, and 3) the presentation.

- 1) The website is where students will begin to build (or update) a professional resume and website to use after high school, completed during Advisory, Digital Media class, Computer science class, and at home.
  - 2) The written defense is a structured **report**, not an essay, that goes into great detail about the two projects the students have chosen to analyze, completed during English and Advisory.
  - 3) The presentation is a shortened version of their written defense, an oral speech with a visual (prezi or slide deck) presented to their fellow Advisory classmates and two instructors. This will be completed during English and Advisory.
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*Scaffolds*: each time you make a copy of these instructions or docs, you should make sure to add your last name into the title of the documents. Makes it easier to search and keep your final drafts separate!

### **First Semester**

[Senior Check In](#)

[Defense Thesis](#)

[Artifact Sign Off](#)

[How to...](#)

[Artifact Rough Draft](#)

Class of 2018 Table of Contents

Website final - [creating your rubric](#)

Website Final - peer grading

[Defense Map](#)

### **Second Semester**

[WD Introduction Rough Draft](#)

[WD Intro Peer Review #1](#)

[WD Intro Peer Review #2](#)

[Artifact Rough Draft #2](#)

[WD Conclusion](#)

[Peer Help A](#)

[Peer Help B](#)

Presentation Mode selected (prezi or slide deck)

[Presentation Outline](#)

Presentation linked to TOC

Written Defense linked to TOC

[Critical Friends Presentation checklist](#)

[Agency quickwrite](#)

[Written Defense Final](#)

Presentation Final

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# Assessment:

## **Website Portfolio**

About Me section

Picture of yourself

Resume (safe for online)

Contact Me (safe for online)

School projects associated with your chosen career path

Extra (specific project, sports, community involvement)

Professional and Appropriate

<i>Excellent website examples from Class of 2016</i>	<a href="#">Francis Website</a> <a href="#">Stewart Website</a> <a href="#">Mitchell Website</a> (real world application)
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## **Written Defense**

Knowledge and Thinking [rubric](#)

Written Communication [rubric](#)

<i>Excellent Written Defense examples from Class of 2016</i>	<a href="#">Dahmen Written Defense</a> (A) <a href="#">Marquez Written Defense</a> (A+) <a href="#">Rodriguez Written Defense</a> (A+)
<i>Class of 2017</i>	<a href="#">Behrens Written Defense</a> (A) <a href="#">Judy Written Defense</a> (A+) perfect score

## **Defense of Learning Presentation**

Knowledge and Thinking, Oral Communication, Agency [rubric](#)

Your presentation is scored with a PASS/NO PASS. If you do not PASS the first presentation, you have the ability to Re-Defend on a later date, after you have met with your scorers and revised your presentation.

<i>Excellent Presentation examples from Class of 2017</i>	<a href="#">Judy Presentation</a> (A+) <a href="#">Pimentel Presentation</a> (A)
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