Course Description and Objectives

- One-half credit course
- Online in Canvas
- For all PKY Seniors
- Provides the opportunity to complete a rigorous inquiry paper and presentation
- Designed to improve college readiness
Deadlines

- ALL material should be submitted on Canvas
- All deadlines are on Sundays at 11:59 p.m.:
  - Inquiry Brief (with thesis statement): October 6, 2019
  - Identification of Subject Area Expert: October 27, 2019
  - Outline of paper and indication of sources: November 10, 2019
  - Rough draft of paper: December 8, 2019
  - Final paper: February 9, 2020
  - Presentation slides: March 1, 2020
- Senior project presentation: March 12, 2020
Grading

- Of the overall grade:
  - 50% is for the Research Paper
    - This includes associated benchmarks (inquiry brief, SAE, outline & sources, rough and final drafts).
  - 50% is for the Presentation
    - This includes the presentation slide show and live presentation before a panel of judges.
Resources

- Canvas: Senior Project is set up as a course on Canvas.
- Senior Calendar: All important Senior deadlines are posted on the Senior Calendar, found on the PKY website
- Remind: There are instructions and a link on Canvas for joining the Remind app (ALL Seniors should join if they have not already!)
- Senior Project Advisor: Each Senior will have an advisor to coach them through the project. Seniors will have some choice regarding who advises them.
Senior Project parts: The Inquiry Brief

- **Inquiry Brief** be completed and submitted on Canvas (deadline: Oct. 6th)
- Establishes your thesis statement based on something you are curious and/or passionate about.
- Explores the questions you need to ask
- Asks you to suggest sources for Subject Area Experts.
- Gives you a calendar on which you should plot your timeline for completing the parts of your senior project by the deadlines.
- Must complete the sign-off page in person, with your advisor.
Senior Project parts: Subject Area Expert

- Your Subject Area Expert (SAE) should be a professional who is extremely knowledgeable about your chosen subject.
- This person cannot be related to you and cannot be employed by P. K. Yonge.
- If practical, you are strongly encouraged to utilize a SAE who is affiliated with the University of Florida.
- Start contacting possible SAEs early—professionals are BUSY PEOPLE! It may take several tries before you get a SAE who agrees to work with you!
Senior Project parts:
Paper Outline & Indication of Sources

- **Outlines** help you organize your paper and keep track of details.

- In organizing your outline (see examples in Canvas):
  - Begin with your thesis statement.
  - List the main ideas in support of your thesis (usually Roman numerals: I, II, III...)
  - Under each main idea, list the supporting details (usually lettered: A, B, C...)

- **Sources** for data to support your claim (thesis) should be varied. They must include:
  - A reputable printed source
  - An online, peer-reviewed journal
  - An interview with your Subject Area Expert
  - A credible website (see Canvas for establishing credible sources).
Senior Project Parts: Research Paper

- Should have a cover page with your title, your full name, date, and “P. K. Yonge D. R. S. Senior Project”
- The research paper should be 7-8 pages in length, excluding the cover page and references. It should be in APA format (see Canvas for details).
- It should include your thesis statement—usually a single sentence in the first paragraph of the paper. This is your claim.
- Describe and explain your driving question (wondering).
- Support your claim with thorough, evidence-based argumentation.
- Should include a reference page with no fewer than seven (7) sources. More may be necessary. You should have one or more from each of the types discussed in the previous slide.
Senior Project parts:
Rough Draft & Final Paper

- Your rough draft should be as excellent as you can make it. It should include all the essential parts of the paper.
- Like your final paper, rough drafts should be 7-8 pages. Your advisor will coach you on how to polish the paper for a final draft, but they will be less able to help if your rough draft is trash (do a good job the first time—“polish” does not imply “building from scratch”).
- Both drafts MUST be submitted to Canvas by the stated deadlines.
Senior Project Parts: Presentation Slides

- Every essential aspect of your research paper should be contained in your Google Slide presentation.
- This slide presentation should include bulleted main points, NOT paragraphs.
- It should not be too “busy” or have distracting special effects. Slide presentations should not upstage YOU—you’re the main attraction!
- Additional information about formatting your slide presentation is available on Canvas.
Senior Project Parts: The Presentation

- Your presentation should be approximately 8 minutes in duration.
- You will present before a panel of faculty and community judges.
- Remember—public speaking skills are important here! Present your thesis and argument with passion! Articulate, be aware of your voice and pacing, make eye contact with the judges (DON’T read your slides!).
- Following your presentation, there will be a 2 minute question and answer period with the judges.
- The judges will then provide you with feedback regarding your presentation.
Academic Honesty

- All students are expected to abide by the Academic Honesty Guidelines established by the University of Florida.
- Students are expected to pursue knowledge with integrity.
- Violations of the Academic Honesty Guidelines will result in referral(s) and possible suspension.
- Plagiarism is a violation of the Academic Honesty Guidelines. Students should be aware that all papers will be screened through TurnItIn.com.
Saving Work

- Students are responsible for maintaining duplicate copies of all work submitted in this course and retaining these copies until the school year is over.
- Students should bring two flash drives containing their Google Slide presentation on presentation day.
- Presentations should also be uploaded to Canvas by the published deadline.
- Your PKY Google Drive is wiped clean when you graduate, so you will want to save this somewhere else for the future.
Remediation

- Students who fail to meet benchmarks in a timely fashion may be required to enter Senior Project remediation.
- Students who must be remediated are required to complete a new senior project, including all benchmarks.
- The highest grade a student in remediation can earn is 60%.
- Please remember that Senior Project is a criterion required for graduation.
Awards

P. K. Yonge Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) Sponsors 3 Senior Project awards:

- Best Paper: $100
- Best Presentation: $100
- Best Overall: $150
Contact Information

- If you need assistance with any aspect of Senior Project, your first contact should be your Senior Project Advisor.
- If that person is unavailable, feel free to contact Ms. Andrews, either through Canvas, by Remind, or through P. K. Yonge email: randrews@pky.ufl.edu
- Please note that neither advisors nor Ms. Andrews may be available at night, on weekends or holidays. Don’t try to contact any of us on a Sunday night to ask for an extension!