

Senior Experience

Career Cluster	All
Course Code	80019
Prerequisite(s)	None; Recommended: Foundational CTE Course(s)
Credit	0.5 to 1.0
Program of Study and Sequence	Foundational Course – Pathway Course – Capstone: Senior Experience – Postsecondary Program
Student Organization	DECA, Educator Rising, FBLA, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, SkillsUSA
Coordinating Work-Based Learning	Mentoring, Job Shadow, Student-Run Enterprise, Volunteer Experience, Cooperative Work Experience, Project-Based Learning
Industry Certifications	May vary based on student’s career interest and personal learning plan
Dual Credit or Dual Enrollment	Varies depending upon senior experience
Teacher Certification	7-12 Certified Teachers, Certified School Counselors, Certified Administrators Can be facilitated by a certified educator with a community partner/mentor.
Resources	Community and business/industry organizations www.SDMyLife.com South Dakota Department of Education Work-Based Learning Toolkit https://dlr.sd.gov/workforce_services/individuals/career_launch/toolkit.aspx

Course Description

Capstone: Senior Experience allows students to see the connections between what they are learning now and the application to postsecondary and careers. Students will be expected to conceive a plan of action that incorporates the following four elements: a project/product, research component, portfolio and presentation. Capstone: Senior Experience calls upon students to become an expert in their chosen topic area and showcase the skills and abilities they have gained through their high school experience. It will stretch the students’ skills and prepare them for life beyond high school.

Program of Study Application

Capstone: Senior Experience is a capstone experience at the secondary level. Capstone: Senior Experience would follow coursework in any career cluster.

Course Standards

SE 1: Students will create a proposal for the senior experience related to career interests.

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>
Four Extended Thinking	SE 1.1 Construct a comprehensive plan including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Research component, project/product, presentation, and portfolio● Describe overall learning objective(s) that connects to career interests● Explain how the project extends learning and skills as well as a learning stretch, demonstrating a significant level of knowledge and skills.
Three Strategic Thinking	SE 1.2 Develop a timeline for the project with realistic dates.
Four Extended Thinking	SE 1.3 Identify project resources (e.g., people, materials, funds), acquisitions, and budgeting.

SE 2: Students will analyze personal aptitudes, abilities, strengths, talents, and weaknesses.

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>
Four Extended Thinking	SE 2.1 Evaluate personal attributes and connect to career interest expectations and senior experience.

SE 3: Students will create appropriate portfolio documents.

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>
Three Strategic Thinking	SE 3.1 Create and develop documents that may be required for use in the career portfolio. This may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Cover page● Table of contents● Résumé● Cover letter● List of references● Letter of intent● Reflective letter● Experience journal● Thank you notes● Emails and professional correspondence● Relevant career and schoolwork samples● Research component with works cited● Product documentation● Certificates and recognitions

SE 4: Students will develop a research component relevant to senior experience projects/products.

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>
Four Extended Thinking	SE 4.1 Construct a concise and clear thesis statement that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Supports main points● Includes relevant research obtained from valid sources● Provides a summative section

Two Skill/Concept	SE 4.2 Prepare a formatted citation document to accompany the research component.
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SE 5: Students will develop a project or product connected to the comprehensive plan (SE 1.1).

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>
Two Skill/Concept	SE 5.1 Demonstrate educational and personal growth through the project or product. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Documentation of product or development process, such as reflection and artifacts
Two Skill/Concept	SE 5.2 Connect skills and knowledge gained throughout coursework relevant to project/product completion.

SE 6: Students will develop a presentation showcasing the comprehensive plan, project or product, and research.

<i>Webb Level</i>	<i>Sub-indicator</i>
Two Skill/Concept	SE 6.1 Utilize appropriate visual aids as part of the presentation.
Three Strategic Thinking	SE 6.2 Demonstrate public speaking skills as part of the presentation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Professional Attire ● Eye Contact ● Volume ● Gestures ● Word Choice ● Clarity and pronunciation ● Effective presentation components, including hook, introduction of self, body of presentation, supporting details, and conclusion
Four Extended Thinking	SE 6.3 Present the senior experience to an audience. Presentation may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Project analysis and process ● Explanation of relationships among comprehensive plan, project, or product, and research ● Impact on postsecondary and career goals