**Extended Essay: Summer Assignment 2021-2022**

**A Note About the Extended Essay (“EE”)**

The Extended Essay is an academic-style research paper on a topic of your choosing in one of the DP subjects that you plan to study in the coming year. Your Extended Essay is a part of the DP Core requirements alongside the Theory of Knowledge class and your Creativity, Activity, and Service work.

**The Summer Activity: This summer, juniors will explore topics for their Extended Essay. Students will select 3 – 4 potential topics, draft the topic with a limitation, and align the topic to a DP subject they will take in the fall. Finally, students will write a reflective statement to their EE Coordinators.**

Instructions: Make a list of 3 - 4 things that you are interested in learning about. Build a chart in which you identify your interest, build a specific limitation around your interest to specifically narrow your topic, and align your interest to an academic subject. Finally, write a reflection to your EE Coordinator.

***Samples:***

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| **The topic I like** | **My topic with a Specific Limitation: I can put parameters around the topic to make it specific** | **The DP subject I will take that might help me figure out what to include in a paper about this topic** | **In what ways will this DP course help me develop my topic into a research paper?** |
| Street Art | Specifically, I would like to study downtown Austin Street Art visible in June. | Visual Art Course | My visual art class will probably have samples of questions to ask myself when I look at art critically. |
| My family history | Specifically, I would like to study the way my great grandma adjusted to life in Texas. | History | My history course will probably have a system to use when I interview my great grandma. They may even have samples I can use. |

**Rationale:** This table will be useful to help you identify a topic, develop a research question, and to identify a course that you can lean on for a research method to answer your question.

**Due Date:** This activity is due to your EE Coordinator on the first day of school.

**Grade: /12 Total Possible Points**

**Chart:** Your chart grade will be based on your Focus and Method. Here we want to see how your draft of a topic with limitations will align with a specific DP class. There are 6 possible points for your graph in this assignment.

 **Reflection Questions:** Your reflection questions will be grade on how candidly and thoroughly you respond. There are 6 possible points for your reflection.

**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Instructions: Make a list of 3 - 4 things that you are interested in learning about. Build a chart in which you identify your interest, build a specific limitation around your interest to specifically narrow your topic, and align your interest to an academic subject. Finally, write a reflection to your EE Coordinator.

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| **Topics I Like** | **A Specific Limitation I can Place Around the Topic to Help me Narrow it Down** | **The DP subject I will take that might help me figure out how to write a paper about this topic** | **How will this course help me develop my topic into a research paper** |
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**Reflection Questions:**

1. What specific things make me nervous about my EE? Why does it make me nervous?

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1. What specific things make me excited about my EE? Why do these things inspire me?

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1. What steps can I take to make the EE easier for myself?

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**Rubric:**

**Criteria A: We will use a hybrid of Criteria A to assess your summer assignment chart.**

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| **Criteria A:****Focus and Method** | This criterion focuses on the topic, the research question and the methodology. It assesses the explanation of the focus of the research (this includes the topic and the research question), and how the research will be undertaken. |
| **Points Awarded** | **Level Description** |
| **1 - 2** | **The topic is communicated unclearly and incompletely.** Identification and explanation of the topic is limited; the purpose and focus of the research is unclear, or does not lend itself to a systematic investigation in the subject for which it is registered. **Methodology (The DP Course Alignment) of the research is not selected or it is not aligned to the topic.**There is limited evidence that their selection was informed. |
| **3 - 4** | **The topic is communicated.** Identification and explanation of the research topic is communicated; the purpose and focus of the research is adequately clear, but only partially appropriate. **Methodology (The DP Course Alignment)**There is some evidence that their selection(s) was informed.**The Topic is Appropriate for the Selected Subject** |
| **5 - 6** | **The topic is communicated accurately and effectively.**The topic is clearly aligned to a DP class. The student correctly identifies the ways in which the class will help write the essay**.****Methodology**There is evidence of effective and informed selection of sources and/or methods |

**Total Points Earned: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 6**

**Reflection Questions: These questions will be graded using a heavily modified version of Criteria D “Reflection” from the Math course. This section also has 6 possible points.**

Here, the “reflection” criterion will assess how the student reviews, analyses and evaluates the 3 questions posed.

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| **Points Awarded** | **Level Description** |
| **0** | The reflection does not reach a standard described below. |
| **1 -2** | There is evidence of limited reflection |
| **3 -4** | There is evidence of meaningful reflection |
| **5 - 6** | There is evidence of thorough and critical reflection |

**Definitions:**

**Ever greater levels of reflection are indicated to the teacher by more thoroughly answering the questions. Please see the examples below:**

Students may add what next, they may discuss implications of their interests or worries, discuss strengths and weaknesses of approaches to the EE, and consider different ways of leveraging known resources, and identifying systems of support

**Total Points Earned: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ / 6**