

Graduation Project (Option B) **Final Project**

Objective: To demonstrate a working knowledge of the “Code of the West” in each member’s life.

Project Ideas:

Allow members to choose and complete ...

- Song
- Persuasive Essay
- Speech
- Poem
- Personal Artwork / Photography
- Power-point

Song

The book *Cowboy Ethics* offers us a model for living based on The Code of the West. You are a song-writer in your favorite genre (pop, rap, rock, country, etc). Write the lyrics to a song about The Code of the West as well as your 11th Principle.

Persuasive Essay

The book *Cowboy Ethics* offers us a model for living based on The Code of The West. You are to research and choose an individual who is not perfect and who may or may not live by The Code of The West. Argue whether he/she **is or is not** following the Principles found in The Code of The West.

You may choose from a person listed below or you choose your own. The leader must approve your choice before you begin your research.

Alex Rodriguez	Brittney Spears	Oprah Winfrey	Dick Hoyt
Bill Clinton	Roger Clemons	Kurt Warner	JFK
Michael Phelps	Martha Stewart	Barack Obama	Lady Gaga

Elements of Your Argumentative Essay:

1. Choose a good candidate to write about. What is this person known for? What are the strengths and weaknesses of this person? How could The Code of The West help this person?
2. Gather evidence to support your thesis. What mistakes has this person made that could be corrected by following one or more Principles found in The Code of The West?
3. Introduce your topic and assert your side.
4. Present both the good and bad qualities of the person.
5. Select your strongest evidence and present your points one by one.
6. Summarize your position in the concluding paragraph.

Tips for Your Essay:

- Avoid emotional language
- Know the difference between a logical conclusion and an emotional point of view
- Don't make up evidence
- Cite your sources
- Make an outline
- Be prepared to defend your side by knowing the strongest arguments for the other side.

Speech

You are a student in college trying to convince your peers to take “The Code” classes. Write a personal statement about what “The Code” has meant to you and why someone should be involved. Be sure to mention what you have learned, how it has affected you, and why you are recommending it to others. Once your leader has read and approved your speech, deliver it to your peers. Speeches should be 3-5 minutes in length.

Poem

You are an award-winning poet who has just finished all the classes for “The Code.” Compose a poem that will be published in a newspaper article inviting people to attend the classes. Be sure to include some of the Principles as well as what “The Code” has meant to you.

Personal Artwork or Photography

Express yourself using your visual art talents! Draw, paint, or take a picture of items, events, landscapes, people, or anything else that represents the Code of the West to you. Include a short explanation of what your artwork is and why you chose it for this project.

Power Point Presentation

Use a digital slide show to demonstrate how “The Code” has influenced you and what it means in your own life. Once your leader has gone over and approved your presentation, deliver it to your peers. Presentations should be 3-5 minutes in length.