Below are the details for the Senior Project in English. Following the details is a list of each assignment, and the point value associated with the respective assignment.

1. Choosing a text: remember, the goal of this assignment is to illustrate the English skills students have garnered and mastered over their four years as a student at Willowbrook. When considering a text/novel for your independent read, consider the criteria discussed in class:
   a. The text needs to be age appropriate (something a typical high school senior or college aged person would read)
   b. The text needs to have some literary value (meaning a person should be able to read this text, and identify/analyze how the author uses literary devices to arrive at a somewhat universal theme)
   c. The text should NOT be one that is read commonly in schools (or, ideally, it should NOT be one that you have read before).

2. Remember, students should check with the instructor if a text under consideration would fit the above criteria. Instructor DOES have the right to refuse a student’s choice of text.

3. As discussed in class, students have the freedom to choose texts that are from genres that aren’t necessarily ones focused on throughout the “regular” English curriculum (such as graphic novels, science-fiction texts, etc)

4. Research component: During junior year, students may have been asked to create source cards, note cards, and bibliography cards. These will NOT be required for your senior project, but if you feel that such a process was beneficial for you, then you should still follow that path. That being said, the research component for the senior project should focus on the author’s style of writing. Do NOT simply look for/print biographical information; that is NOT of any relevance to this assignment. The goal is for students to find at least TWO (2) pieces of research IN ADDITION TO the novel/text you are reading. The Works Cited page should have at LEAST THREE (3) sources on it.

5. Presentation: Beginning roughly around May 1st, student will be asked to present the findings of their senior project. The presentation should be similar to how the course was taught throughout the year. Students may wish to share a passage from the text they have chosen, and demonstrate the literary devices that the author uses, and then arrive at a conclusion focusing on the author’s purpose/theme. Remember the presentation needs to include:
   a. Some form of technology (can be something like Powerpoint, EdModo, Prezzi, or similar program).
   b. Some way to engage your audience.
   c. Should be roughly 5-10 minutes in length
6. Paper: The final paper should be roughly 5-6 pages, which does NOT include a Works Cited page (and, yes, you need a Works Cited page). It should follow the MLA prescribed format for essay writing (pagination, double spaced, 12 point font size, Times New Roman font, 1” margins on each side of the paper, etc). This essay will NOT be eligible for rewrite opportunities due to time constraints.

7. The instructor will NOT assess an aspect of the project if all of the previous aspects have not been fulfilled. For example, I will not grade a student outline if a student has not submitted his or her research.

HOW WILL YOU BE GRADED FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT?

1. Choosing a text: _____/10
2. Gathering research connected to author’s style _____/25
3. Outline of essay _____/50
4. Written component (with Work Cited Page) _____/200
5. Presentation _____/100

TOTAL POINT VALUE: _____/385

DUE DATES:

1. CHOOSING A TEXT: ____________________________
2. GATHERING RESEARCH: ____________________________
3. OUTLINE OF ESSAY: ____________________________
4. FINAL ESSAY: ____________________________
5. PRESENTATIONS BEGIN: ____________________________