



Each Scholar in the Academy will begin their Thesis Project after their freshman year and complete it by January in his or her Senior year. The Thesis Project is meant to be the culmination of academic and leadership experiences and is a genuine opportunity for Scholars to merge their many interests and service skills with their academic lives while demonstrating leadership and critical thinking skills. Students will be assisted by a faculty member at Bishop Verot Catholic High School to oversee the progress of the project.

The Thesis Project is a four-part origination. The first part involves writing a documented research paper on the topic of your project. The foundation of information for the paper will be a combination of available materials and real-world sources on an approved area of study. Students will have the opportunity to demonstrate the expertise and wisdom they have accumulated throughout their high school career.

The second part of the project allows the student to apply the information and experience he or she has gained to a digital media product. This part of the Thesis Project may be presented in a variety of forms. For example, a product for a research paper on bullying may involve working or shadowing with students and/or victims of bullying and then producing a video on bullying to be shown in schools. In this case, the physical product is service based. Products may also include “job shadowing” with an expert in a specific field and designing a career-based video for other students to evaluate to determine if this is a good career choice. This product will be more about personal gain and reflection. Whichever product is chosen, **a minimum of 30 hours per school year**, verified by an adult mentor familiar with the topic, must be completed. Choosing a mentor is an integral part of the second part of the Thesis Project. The mentor cannot be a family member.

The third part of the Thesis Project consists of compiling a portfolio that documents the process completed throughout the entire project. The portfolio may contain documentation of the project such as pictures or videos in action such as working with individuals in the community. This gives the student the opportunity to prove the work has been completed. It will also include required forms such as activity logs and reflections. It will include one rough draft of the research paper reviewed by the faculty member overseeing the project as well as the final paper. It will include the final digital media product as well.

The final part of the project requires the student to give a ten-minute presentation which includes the showing of the digital media project, followed by a question and answer session. Students will speak to a board consisting of teachers, members of the community, professionals, and parents. Students are encouraged to create professional visual aids, videos and PowerPoint presentations in order to enhance the delivery of the project.

Students will be required to check in with the faculty member overseeing the project to ensure satisfactory progress is being obtained. At anytime, if satisfactory progress is not being achieved, the student may be released from the Academy. This does NOT jeopardize their enrollment at Bishop Verot Catholic High School. Therefore, students should do their best to complete this project and meet guidelines in order to be successful and ensure graduation with an Honors diploma.

