

Frequently Asked Questions for GC 2016-2017

What are the deadline dates? See the Graduation Challenge website at <http://directioncenter.cvuhs.org/graduation-challenge.html>.

How do transfer students learn about GC? Transfer students can learn about GC from their advisor.

Does everyone have to do 20 hours? Yes, there is a minimum of 20 hours.

How do I record these hours? Create your own timelog. See Advisor for assistance.

Presentation - what will it look like? To be determined.

Can the presentation include a video? Yes; the length of format is to be determined.

How long does the presentation have to be? Eight to twelve minutes with some flexibility for special cases.

If my project focus changed from the spring, do I have to re-submit a letter of intent? New topic means a new Letter and new Community Consultant contract.

My hours are done - can the "new" process be used for the paper? Everyone is writing a narrative this year. We're exploring how there could be special opportunities to write a different kind of paper (e.g., research, tri-search, I-search).

What is supposed to be in the annotated bib? See example on the GC website. There will be slight variations (such as length...).

How do I find resources for the bib? Ask the librarian and Community Consultant. Good research practices have not changed. We are expecting that students have experience regarding how to find great resources.

How many different types of resources do I need? A minimum of three. All need to pass the CRAAP test and be approved by Advisor. See <http://directioncenter.cvuhs.org/uploads/1/0/1/1/10116266/sampleannotatedbibliography.pdf>.

Is a Tangible Product still optional? Yes. It should be a natural extension of the topic.

Does a Tangible Product change the length of the paper? Not this year.

Is there a Tangible Product Fair or is it part of the presentation? Most likely the Tangible Product will be part of Presentation Day.

Are there rubrics for the bib and paper? Scale and Target for Bib is on website; Paper scales and targets are being developed.

Do three readers still read my paper and come to consensus? In some form, yes. Students will have face-to-face meetings with their readers before, during, and after the writing process.

What is my next step if I have my hours completed? Please write the annotated bib. Next year, the annotated bib will be completed with the Letter of Intent.

Do I have to do my hours before I do my annotated bib? No.

What is the structure for the research paper? We're expecting students to write a narrative.

Are interviews over email okay? Email is the third best type of interview. Please work hard to have face-to-face interviews with phone interview being the second choice.

How many people do I have to interview? Community Consultant plus two additional interviews.

More FAQs on next page...

Can I interview someone at CVU? One of the “challenges” in Grad Challenge is to think about meeting people you may not know who have great expertise. This year, one interview can be a CVU faculty/staff member.

What do you need to do to exceed in the presentation and project? To be determined when scales are created and calibrated.

How long is the paper? Four to six pages. NO longer than six full pages (not including title page).

What is meant by a Narrative? A Narrative is a story. The student gathers and reflects on three interviews and their experiences to develop an organized and compelling story that allows the reader to experience the learning, struggles, accomplishments, and realizations made by the author during the 20+ hours. The GC Story has a beginning, middle, and end. We want to see them practice a "hook" that leads to an informative paragraph about the details of their project which leads to some form of organizer that is followed through the body of the paper. The conclusion answers the "So What?" and suggests the next steps/further inquiry. Only new research is cited within the paper as the bulk of the research was accomplished through the Annotated Bib. The citations in the Annotated Bib are transferred to the GC Story Bib that also includes the three interviews in MLA format.

What do I do with the interviews? They should inform the narrative. Use attribution style (According to...). Students, for this year, should include three interviews in the paper. They give credit to the people who have taught them knowledge and skills through the 20+ hours.

How do I organize and combine the content/criteria of the paper? This will be determined soon. Guiding questions/outline will be developed.

If a student misses a “deadline”, what happens? First, there is a meeting with the advisee and advisor to discuss -- “What’s going on?” “What can we do?” “What do you need?” After a bit of time, if there is no progress, parents are contacted by advisor.

If after the advisor contacts the parent/guardian about no progress and again, no progress is made, what happens? The advisor asks the student to schedule a meeting with parent/guardian, advisor, student and Patti.

Is Grad Challenge happening this year? It sure is, and it’s going to be better than ever!