



# New York State Seal of Biliteracy

**2017-2018**

# Theme: Our World Today

**Objective:** To research a current and relevant topic that will serve as the basis for a cultural comparison essay and oral presentation in the target language.

**Timeline:** Candidates will work with their advisor to review the timeline process for completing the culminating project. \*\*English and/or target language.

I will schedule appointments with you during an off period and/or after school.

# Procedure:

1. You **MUST** meet with your advisor to discuss the process for selecting a topic and completing your project (\*\*BY the end of October beginning of November)
2. Complete your research proposal. Using a reliable news source, research and identify your project topic. Topics should be current and provide you with information that you can use to compare and contrast the target language culture to your own.
3. Upon approval of the topic, set a timeframe and deadlines for completing the project with your advisor. \*We will be in communication through email to set up appointments. You **MUST** adhere to all deadlines.

**\*\*If you did not receive an email from me then the email you provided does not work\*\*\***

# Earning your Seal of Biliteracy

Work independently to complete the following project requirements:

- ALL work must follow the MLA format.
- Select a minimum of one audio OR one video source AND one written source that will be cited in your essay presentation. (2 sources total)
- Email links to your specific sources to your advisor for approval.
  - Upon approval, create a list of works cited that must be included with the final draft of your project.
- Develop a 600-800 word essay in the target language that uses information from BOTH the audio or video AND your written source. The theme of your project should allow you to demonstrate your understanding of your topic from the target language's "world" and compare and contrast it with your own experience.

# Theme examples...

- Social media in the lives of teenagers
- Technological advancements in medicine
- The traditional family vs. the contemporary family
- Education- studying abroad/university
- Politics/Ethics/Values
- BE CREATIVE and choose a topic of interest that you can discuss thoroughly

# Monthly meetings

- You MUST meet with your advisor 1-2 times per month during the essay writing process to ensure that the topic is covered sufficiently and to choose an area of focus for the presentational component of the project.
- Develop the oral presentation component of the project with guidance from your advisor.
- Submit your final project and schedule your presentation with the review panel BEFORE March 30,2018.

# Panel presentation

The oral presentation will be a formal conversation between the panel and the candidate that will be based on but not limited to the reflection questions below:

- **Why did you choose your topic?**
- **In comparing the topic to your own experience, what interested you the most and why?**
- **What have you learned from participating in this process?**

*\*\*It is an interview like presentation. Be prepared to discuss your topic and answer questions.\*\**

# Grade requirement

You MUST maintain an 85 average in both English and in your target language class throughout your senior year in order to be eligible for the seal.

\*Failure to do so will eliminate your application.



# Receiving the Seal of Biliteracy

You will be informed post panel presentation regarding status of seal around April-May.

Email me with any questions/concerns. [fflorentino@bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us](mailto:fflorentino@bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us)

[j3reilly@bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us](mailto:j3reilly@bellmore-merrick.k12.ny.us)

Good luck!