

Senior Series

Call for Proposals – Due Tuesday, November 1st

The VIA Committee is reviving a Manchester tradition known as *Senior Series*. Each semester one senior (or a group of seniors) will be selected to present a VIA program on a topic or theme of their choosing. Programs might take a variety of forms. For example, they may: reflect upon students' experiences and personal development at Manchester, focus on personal or societal values, address social or political concerns, or approach a topic from a scholarly perspective.

Goals:

- Showcase student creativity, insight and knowledge.
- Inspire other MU students to develop themselves by taking advantage of the many opportunities available at Manchester.
- Provide an engaging and meaningful VIA experience.

Proposal Process:

- Students who will be graduating seniors in spring or summer 2017 are invited to submit a proposal, due by November 1st. The event will be planned, organized and executed by up to three seniors with the support and assistance of a faculty or staff mentor. Proposals must be submitted by the mentor with a letter of support. A proposal form is attached.
- The VIA Committee will select one proposal for a Senior Series program to be presented in spring, 2017.
- The committee will notify the selected person/group by December 2nd.

Criteria for Evaluation of Proposals:

- Program must focus on a clear and coherent theme or topic. Programs which are ill-defined, primarily entertainment, or consist of an unrelated collection of segments or performances will be evaluated less favorably.
- Program will be of interest to a broad cross-section of students.
- Program will be presented in an engaging manner using a variety of modes of expression (e.g., speech, music, film, artwork, photography, poetry, drama, readings).
- Student(s) proposing the event must be in academic good standing (CGPA \geq 2.0).
- Proposal must be supported by a faculty or staff member who will assist students in planning the program and arranging logistics.

Desirable Attributes:

- Program highlights student creativity and originality (including original works).
- Program is collaborative in nature involving members of the campus community in addition to the organizers.
- Program challenges students' assumptions about the topic being presented.

Senior Series Proposal Form

Students: Complete this form and forward it electronically to your faculty/staff mentor.

Mentor: Submit both the proposal and your letter of support via email to Kathrine Dwyer (kadwyer@manchester.edu), Office for Academic Affairs by Tuesday November 1st.

Questions may be directed to Darla Haines (982-5949), VIA chair.

Student(s) who will plan and present the program: (list up to three)

Theme or Topic:

Program Description: (how topic will be addressed, format and type of media to be used, people to be involved)

What students will gain from attending the program:

Faculty or Staff Mentor: _____

Mentor is expected to: review the program proposal and submit a letter of support, contribute to the development of the program's content and format, and assist with planning and logistics as needed.

Mentor's letter of support should address students':

- Knowledge and ability to address the chosen theme or topic.
- Personal maturity and motivation needed to plan and present a high-quality program
- Skill in presenting a meaningful program using the proposed format and modes of expression.
- Organizational skills and ability to plan and execute this type of event.
- Ability to collaborate with others who will be involved in the presentation.