



Get Ready for the Showcase: A Guide for Students

Plymouth State's Tackling a Wicked Problem (TWP) and Integrated Capstone Signature Project (SP) Showcase is a significant University-wide event celebrating your learning journey.

Scope and Purpose

- **What You'll See:** A wide variety of projects, including oral presentations, learning stations, slide decks, and hands-on activities.
- **Target Audience:** The showcase features work from TWP students beginning their academic journey and SP students ending their time at PSU.
- **Learning Focus:** The event is a space to demonstrate growth in the four Habits of Mind: Purposeful Communication, Self-Regulated Learning, Integrated Perspective, and Problem Solving. Demonstrations of crucial learning, iteration, and managing challenges constitute success. Projects that don't quite achieve goals aren't considered "failures" but should be viewed as valuable learning opportunities.

Logistics: When, Where, and Who

- **Size:** Expect a large event! It will feature 100 projects, over 400 students, and up to 100 visitors.
- **Location:** In 2025, the event will span multiple rooms in the HUB: Fireplace Lounge, Pawsway, Room 109, and the Hage Room.

- **Attendees:** You will be presenting to a large on-campus group (students, staff, faculty, administrators) as well as off-campus guests, including community partners from the greater Plymouth area and the state. Students who work with stakeholders are strongly encouraged to invite them!

Showcase Vibe: Preparing Your Professional Self

- **Dress Code:** There is no mandatory dress code; however, the vibe leans toward "business casual." This is a professional setting where you represent yourself, your peers, and your work.
- **Networking Opportunity:** Treat this as a chance to practice how you speak about your work, network, and socialize. Dress and prepare in a way that makes you feel confident and ready to engage.

Prepare to Share: Talking About Your Work

Guests will walk through and linger briefly. Be ready to give a quick, impactful summary and engage in a deeper conversation.

Practice your answers to these prompts ahead of time.

Tackling A Wicked Problem (TWP)

The focus for TWP students is on defining a complex problem, identifying a feasible scope, and learning how to work effectively while growing the habits of mind.

Conversation Focus	Key Prompt to Answer
Problem & Scope	Share your " wicked problem " and the opportunity you saw to work on a specific piece of it.
Project Summary	Describe your project in three sentences or less .
Success & Failure	Describe a part of the project that worked well . Share a challenge and how you made a pivot .

Habits of Mind	Provide an example of how you or your group practiced one Habit of Mind (e.g., Integrated Perspective) during your process.
Gratitude	Share your gratitude for the people who helped make your project possible.

Integrated Capstone: Signature Project (SP)

The focus for SP students is on high-level integration, bringing skills from their distinct disciplines into collaborative spaces with peers to design interdisciplinary projects for impact, all while continuing to grow the habits of mind.

Conversation Focus	Key Prompt to Answer
Theme & Inspiration	Share the theme of your course and the opportunity that topic inspired.
Project Summary	Describe your project in three sentences or less .
Impact	Describe the impact of your project (e.g., on a community partner, the institution, or a body of knowledge).
Future Vision	Share a challenge related to the project and how you made a pivot OR how you would iterate in the future .
Habits of Mind	Provide an example of how you or your group practiced one Habit of Mind (e.g., Purposeful Communication) during your process.
Gratitude	Share your gratitude for the people who helped make your project possible.