

## Senior Project

A typical family vacation begins with three questions. Where and when are we going? How much is it going to cost? And how the heck do we get there? In the past finding out how to get places was a lot more difficult and often times, you weren't sure exactly how you'd get there. With all our modern day technology, mapping out a journey of 5 miles is just as easy as one of 5000 miles. You can buy paper maps, print out pages of directions off Google-maps, AAA, or Mapquest's webpage. You can download maps with the path to take highlighted. You can get digital displays in your car. You can even have your car tell you when and where to make the turns before you even reach them. Where's the fun and adventure in going on a vacation if you're basically being controlled by a computer.

My project is a long journey across the country without the use of maps, GPS, or any other type of directional tool. The starting location is Purchase College campus, my first destination is to Southlake, Texas. The trip to Southlake will be a rather long and stressful one, as I will not have any maps, directions, compass, or GPS device to guide me there. I will have to go purely on what's already in my head, and what the road provides. As of now, I'm not planning on asking for directions, unless I feel like I am lost for more than a 24 hour period of time. Once in Southlake, I have arranged to stay at a friend's home for a day or two to recover from the journey, before heading back to New York.

However, the trip from Southlake, TX to Purchase, NY will be a much more relaxed one. I will be using a Helio Ocean, with its GPS-enabled mapping system to find the quickest route back. As for logging for the GPS-data, the Helio is not able to, so I will also have a GPS Trackstick with me. The Trackstick can log location, speed, altitude, and a few other bits of information. These will be my main statistics to present in the final products. Along with GPS-related data, I will be including several other statistics as well, such as gallons of gas used, money spent, number of times lost, and States traveled through. These results will be used in the final products of the project as well. The trip will be documented with video as the main medium, followed by digital photography and Internet blogging while on the road. Upon returning, I would begin working on the visual part of my trip. This would include several pie charts, graphs, and a video Documentary of my travels.