

Liberal Studies Program

Senior Capstone Learning Outcomes and Writing Expectations

Proposed by the Senior Capstone Committee and approved, as amended, by the Liberal Studies Council on April 22, 2015; thereafter approved (without further amendment) by Faculty Council on June 3, 2015.

The Senior Year Capstone course provides an opportunity for students to actively reflect and consider the relationship between their specialized experiences within their major, the more general learning experiences they have received, and the impact that their career choices may have within the broader society.

Learning Outcomes:

Students completing a Capstone course should be able to:

1. Apply one or more theories or concepts from courses within their major to an analysis of a particular issue relevant to the major.
2. Identify an idea, method, or concept from a discipline outside their major field of study and be able to apply it within the context of their major field of study.
3. Examine how their previous coursework, including Liberal Studies courses, has contributed to their intellectual development and/or their post-graduation plans.

Writing Expectations:

Instructors of all Capstone courses must assign at least 10 pages of written material to be completed outside of class. These ten pages do not have to be contained in a single assignment but may be the cumulative work of multiple assignments. These ten pages must provide students the opportunity to demonstrate their progress in mastering one or more learning outcomes for the course. Additional writing beyond the ten page minimum is discretionary and need not reflect learning outcomes. Students should receive feedback on their written work.