

Memo: Capstone for the English Major

Studies in World Literature (ENGL 499)

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The Capstone Committee has established three absolutely essential products for any course deemed a capstone course by the relevant department:

The student learning outcomes for the senior-year integrative capstone may be accomplished using a wide variety of assignments, projects, internships, research, performances, presentations, or other products; however, the following products are required of each senior-year integrative capstone and will contribute to the calculation of grades:

1. A required paper with a minimum length of 2000 words (approximately 7 pages) and worth a minimum of 10% of the assessment for the course in which it is included. This paper provides an opportunity for a summative assessment of the student's information literacy skills, including the proper citation of a minimum of 5 appropriate sources that support their research. Options to satisfy this prompt include, but are not limited to, a traditional research paper; a evaluative/reflective essay that accompanies a creative or scholarly work (such as a senior art show or recital), describing elements of the creative process; or a business plan that incorporates market research and analysis with the proposal of a specific entrepreneurial venture.
2. An assignment that demonstrates the student's ability to think critically about faith and vocation as it is expressed in a particular discipline met by a course or experience in the students' degree plan or major.
3. A comprehensive skills and accomplishments inventory reflecting the student's scholarship (research and creative activities), accomplishments, co-curricular activities, service, leadership, internships, integrative thinking, knowledge, etc.

1. My major paper requirement is greater in its minimum length and more extensive in its research base than the description drafted by the capstone committee, appearing as #1, above, in the list of essential capstone products. (See syllabus, page 8-9, "Research paper")

2. My reflective paper, the shorter of the two described in the syllabus, includes a required faith-and-vocation segment--once more, in keeping with the capstone demands, appearing as #2, above, in the list of essential capstone products. (See syllabus, page 7, "Reflective paper")

3. My assignment of the Self-Inventory Journal, requiring students to inventory their scholarship (research and creative activities), accomplishments, co-curricular activities, service, leadership, internships, integrative thinking, knowledge, etc., is intended to meet the demands of #3, above, in the list of essential capstone products. (See syllabus, pages 7-8, "Self-inventory journal")

In keeping with the committee's guidelines, moreover, I have inserted a section in the syllabus on student-learning outcomes and their means of achievement or demonstration, detailing the individual outcomes required of all students enrolled for the course, as well as the means of demonstration for each. (See syllabus, page 3, ""Student-learning outcomes and means of achievement/demonstration")

Capstone Product #1

A required paper with a minimum length of 2000 words (approximately 7 pages) and worth a minimum of 10% of the assessment for the course in which it is included. This paper provides an opportunity for a summative assessment of the student's information literacy skills, including the proper citation of a minimum of 5 appropriate sources that support their research. Options to satisfy this prompt include, but are not limited to, a traditional research paper; a evaluative/reflective essay that accompanies a creative or scholarly work (such as a senior art show or recital), describing elements of the creative process; or a business plan that incorporates market research and analysis with the proposal of a specific entrepreneurial venture. (See page 7, "Research paper")

Capstone Product #2

An assignment that demonstrates the student's ability to think critically about faith and vocation as it is expressed in a particular discipline met by a course or experience in the students' degree plan or major. (See page 7, "Reflective paper")

Capstone Product #3

A comprehensive skills and accomplishments inventory reflecting the student's scholarship (research and creative activities), accomplishments, co-curricular activities, service, leadership, internships, integrative thinking, knowledge, etc. (See page 7-8)