



The Modern Languages Capstone

Majors Served	Capstone Sections Offered
French	FRE 495.001 Professor Frédéric Rondeau
Spanish	FRE 495.002 Professor Kathryn Slott
Romance Languages	SPA 495.001 Professor Eugene DelVecchio
International Affairs: Language, Culture, and the Humanities (French/Spanish)	SPA 495.002 Professor Carlos Villacorta

Guidelines for Completion of the Gen. Ed. Capstone Requirement

- Prospective graduates majoring in the disciplines listed above must complete a Capstone in their last year of study as a requirement for graduation.
- Students will consult with a faculty member from their major area at the beginning of the spring or fall semester and schedule a meeting during the first week of classes. If taken for zero credit, current requirements indicate that the Capstone must be completed in conjunction with another course in the target language at the 400 level. If course credit is necessary, approval of the department chair is required.
- The advisor and the student will agree on a project and, together, they will create a plan of study and a time-line for completing the project.
- While students may register for 0-3 credits, University policies require that the effort of a capstone be the equivalent of a three-credit course.
- The successful conclusion of a capstone must include a public presentation of the project in the target language (**French or Spanish**). It is assumed that the presentation will be accompanied by written documentation (for example, a paper, a portfolio, or a power point). In addition, the student and his/her advisor will select a venue for the presentation at a public gathering of faculty, students, and friends. The purpose of the public presentation in the target language is to document the student's oral proficiency.



Department of Modern Languages and Classics

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Suggested Timeline

This schedule allows some flexibility for condensing or expanding on any of the stages, especially the draft and revision. It is intended for a 14-week semester. While it is intended as a guide, the director may expect adjust it as needed, but the goal is to ensure timely completion of the necessary stages of the capstone and thus to achieve a high quality result.

Prior to registration:	Students discuss their interest in working with the appropriate faculty member according to the <i>general</i> topic area, which should fit the expertise or interest of that faculty member. The capstone does not need to be done with the student's advisor.
Weeks 1 - 2:	Exploration and selection of specific topic <i>This stage is <u>done in consultation with the faculty member supervising capstone.</u></i>
Weeks 3 – 4:	Bibliography research (preparation, gathering, reading of references). Capstone director should work closely with student during this stage.
Week 5:	Student creates an outline of the research or written work
Weeks 6 – 7:	Student submits a draft of the capstone
Weeks 8 – 10:	Revision of draft
Weeks 11 – 12:	Student works on final version of capstone paper <i>Length will vary, and should be discussed with capstone director</i>
Week 13:	Student prepares the oral presentation (powerpoint, video, or other)
Week 14 –Finals:	Oral presentation of capstone (<i>required</i>)**

** The oral presentation will be done in a public venue and is part of the evaluation.