

Office of Special Degree Programs

The Capstone Experience: How does this work?

If you are a student in one of Mizzou's Special Degree Programs (Interdisciplinary, International, or General Studies), you have options for how to fulfill the requirement of a capstone experience. Below is a brief synopsis of each. Please read this before speaking with an advisor:

- 1. Special Readings Project (#4960 Sec 1):** This is the most traditional capstone project for this program. You complete an independent research project under the supervision of a faculty member who agrees to work with you on the project. Most of these projects result in a 15-20 page research paper. This is your chance to explore an area that interests you. It is designed to be an academic challenge: a fun, engaging, stimulating challenge that asks you to pose a question and begin to solve the question through your independent research during your final semester. For some of you this could be your last opportunity to have the luxury of time to devote to exploring a topic that you find fascinating. You should produce a final project you are proud of. Be willing to think outside the box on this one. We are open to creative, innovative approaches to learning as well. The supervising faculty member is responsible for grading your project and reporting that grade to this office.
- 2. Internship (#4940 Sec 1):** The student works approximately 50 hours per credit hour earned per semester at an agency, company, corporation of his/her selection. Student will submit mid-semester and end of semester self-evaluation reports. Grades are based on a pass-fail basis. For an internship to be approved as a capstone experience, they must help the student solidify and explore his/her areas of concentration. This needs prior approval from the Director of Special Degree Programs.
- 3. Capstone Course:** This can be a course designated as such by a department, or it can be a 3000 level or above course that relates to one of your components that you believe would serve you well as a capstone course. **Once you decide upon a course, you must get approval from your advisor prior to the semester you are taking the course. We need to notify the Dean's Office of which course you are using for your capstone. If we do not have this information in a timely fashion, you will not receive capstone credit.** Students in the International Business program enroll in Management 4970 as their capstone course.

For more information about these courses, contact the Office of Special Degree Programs
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