

## Essential Studies Program Committee Approval for CAPSTONE TOPICS Courses

From the 2015-17 CSC Catalog:

### **CAPSTONE INTEGRATION (3 CREDIT HOURS)**

**Students will integrate essential studies skills, knowledge and abilities, adapting them to new settings, questions, and responsibilities.**

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 12.** Students will complete a culminating experience that illustrates effective application of their essential studies skills, modes of inquiry and personal and social responsibility through one of the following projects:

- An Essential Studies Capstone Course (CAP 469 prefix) where students produce a creative or scholarly work requiring broad knowledge, appropriate technical proficiency, information collection, interpretation, synthesis, presentation, and reflection that grows out of interdisciplinary, collaborative engagement of a specific issue or theme. Approved courses appear on the Essential Studies Program website.

**(NOTE: catalogs before 2015 require SIX hours of CAP 469 Credit)**

- A capstone, independent study or other advanced-project course within a specific department or program that meets SLO #12 criteria and has been approved by the essential studies program committee. Successful completion of the project will include a presentation illustrating the application of Capstone Integration outcomes as outlined on the Essential Studies Program website.

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In its review of requests for approval of CAP TOPICS courses to fulfill SLO#12, the Essential Studies Program Committee will use such criteria as:

- Does the course clearly address the Learning Outcome(s) identified?
- Does the course provide students with opportunities to develop the knowledge/skills necessary for successful achievement of the Learning Outcome(s)?
- Does the course provide students with opportunities to demonstrate achievement of the Learning Outcome(s)?
- Have the hosting department/unit and the instructor(s) agreed to follow through with their responsibilities as outlined in the approval form?

### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

The department or program requesting approval should complete the following steps:

1. Contact the Essential Studies Program Coordinator to arrange for a meeting with the ESP committee.
2. Submit the following forms and requested documents within ONE WEEK of the meeting.
3. Have a representative of the department or program attend the meeting to answer any questions the committee members may have about the submitted materials.

**NOTE:** TOPICS courses approved by the committee will qualify for SLO#12 Credit each semester from the start date indicated on the form until the committee requires the course to be reviewed and re-approved.

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FORMS:**

Short title of the topics course to appear in the schedule

*469J Topics in Capstone Integration:*

Semester/Term in Which Proposed Changes Will Go Into Effect:

Name and student ID number of person submitting this form

Name:

Student ID:

Describe the specific *issue or theme* that will be the focus of this course. Explain how this issue or theme will provide the opportunity for students to meet the outcomes of Capstone Integration.

Describe opportunities students should have to produce a creative or scholarly work requiring *broad knowledge, appropriate technical proficiency and information collection* based on the issue or theme. Explain how the students will demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by this outcome.

Describe opportunities students should have to produce a creative or scholarly work requiring *interpretation, synthesis, presentation, and reflection* based on the issue or theme. Explain how the students will demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by this outcome.

Describe opportunities students should have to produce a creative or scholarly work that grows out of *interdisciplinary, collaborative* engagement of the issue or theme. Explain how the students will demonstrate the knowledge and skills specified by this outcome.

Identify TWO Essential Studies SKILLS that will be reinforced in this course.

**Skills: Students will develop intellectual and practical skills, including proficiency in written, oral, and visual communication; inquiry techniques; critical and creative thinking; quantitative techniques and applications; information acquisition and assessment; teamwork; and problem-solving. (SLO 2-5)**

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 2.** Students will use writing as a tool for learning and thinking, and will compose texts that address diverse writing situations purposefully, making appropriate use of evidence and conventions, including Standard Edited English.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 3.** Students will demonstrate communication competence in two or more of the following ways: (a) by making oral presentations with supporting materials, (b) by leading and participating in problem-solving teams, (c) by employing a repertoire of communication skills for developing and maintaining professional and personal relationships, or (d) by employing listening skills.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 4.** Students will demonstrate the application of mathematical terminology, expressions, and logical reasoning abilities to model, draw inferences, and to mathematically solve problems within our world.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 5.** Students will practice one or more creative art forms, such as music, theatre, creative writing, visual art, and the design arts.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

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Identify TWO Essential Studies Modes of Inquiry that will be reinforced in this course.

**Modes of Inquiry: Students will build understanding of the human condition within its social and natural contexts. (SLO 6-8)**

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 6.** Students will employ scientific methodology to analyze and explain how the natural world functions and how humans interact with it.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 7.** Students will examine the human condition by exploring cultural and aesthetic achievements illustrated in at least one of the disciplines in the humanities: visual and performing arts, literature, history, philosophy, or religion.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 8.** Students will study human behavior and social interactions integrating knowledge, theories, methods, or historical perspectives appropriate to the social sciences.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

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Identify ONE Essential Studies Personal and Social Responsibility outcome that will be reinforced in this course.

**Personal and Social Responsibility: Students will demonstrate individual and social responsibility through the critical examination of wellness; study of ethical principles and reasoning; application of civic knowledge; interaction with diverse cultures; and engagement with global issues. (SLO 9-11)**

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 9.** Students will apply theories and principles of ethics and citizenship through the study of or participation in civic affairs.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 10.** Students will demonstrate knowledge of human diversity and interconnectedness and will analyze the implications of diversity in its various economic, cultural, social or political forms.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

**Student Learning Outcome (SLO) 11.** Students will discuss current health issues and incorporate wellness practices that lead to positive personal changes in health and wellness lifestyle.

Describe briefly how this outcome will be reinforced.

As part of the approval process, the department/unit agrees to collect and assess a reasonable sample of students' work and provide reflections on students' achievement of the Learning Outcomes for its capstone course as outlined in the assessment plan for SLO#12 (click **HERE (link to be inserted)** for a copy of the assessment plan).

I agree to provide requested materials as part of the assessment plan for SLO#12

## Supportive Material

Attach a copy of the sample syllabus that clearly identifies:

- The Learning Outcome(s) that are satisfied by the course.
- A brief description of the opportunities this course provides students to acquire the knowledge or skills necessary to achieve the Learning Outcome(s)
- A brief description of the graded assignments that the instructor(s) uses to assess the students' achievement of the Outcome(s).

If approved, submit the appropriate materials to the records office for updating schedules and/or catalogs.

*(Adapted from University of Nebraska-Lincoln ACE Certification Program) Rev. 1/14/15*