

HEALTH AND SOCIETY CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE

Each Health & Society undergraduate career will culminate in a Capstone Experience requiring the student to synthesize and integrate a body of work within this major. Normally this is done in conjunction with an upper-level course that emphasizes an inter- or multi-disciplinary way of knowing.

The three most common options for this capstone are ANTH 4343 “Biomedicine, Culture & Power” and ANTH 4345 “Creating Global and Public Health Impact” and ANTH 5336 “Health in Cross-Cultural Perspective”. Other courses (for example, including but not necessarily limited to ANTH 4307, PSYC 4320, 4321) may be petitioned for approval as described below.

Students may also petition to have a supervised independent study research project (ANTH 4391 or 4392), a supervised engaged learning project, or a supervised internship (ANTH 4381) count for their capstone experience. Providing undergraduates with an opportunity for reflection and sustained focus, the Capstone Experience will employ skills, knowledge and methodologies taught throughout the undergraduate major. The Capstone experience ends with an essay(s) assignment administered prior to graduation by either the capstone course professor or the Health and Society Program Director.

Student Learning Outcomes

1. Students will be able to apply a cumulative understanding of interdisciplinary/disciplinary practice.
2. Students will be able to produce an original achievement (project or essay) in research, synthesis, creative endeavor, exploration, or other production

Capstone Requirements

To fulfill the capstone requirement, students must produce an original achievement (project or essay) in research, synthesis, creative endeavor, exploration, or other production that clearly utilizes course-based instruction from a diversity of Major courses, program lectures, internship or field work. Inter-disciplinarity is an essential element of the Health and Society Capstone Experience

1. It is recommended that students take ANTH 4343, ANTH 4345, or ANTH 5336 to fulfill their capstone experience. However, there are also alternative Capstone Experience options:
 - a. Students may fulfill their Capstone Experience with an alternative 4000 or 5000 level course in ANTH, PSYC, or SOCI that applies a cumulative understanding of interdisciplinary practice and meets all other Health & Society Program capstone requirements, including a project that shows some interdisciplinary work. They must also obtain the permission of the instructor of the course to fulfill the capstone requirement in this way.
 - b. Students may carry out independent research or an Engaged Learning project (in the context of a faculty-supervised independent study) to fulfill their Capstone Experience.
 - c. Students may arrange a faculty-and-agency supervised internship (ANTH 4381) to fulfill their Capstone Experience.

All requests for alternative Capstone Experiences must be submitted in the semester prior to the alternative proposed course offering or alternative Capstone Experience to the H&S

Program Director. Generally, this request should include a draft syllabus including bibliography of assigned readings, schedule of assignments, and the name of the supervising faculty member.

2. Ideally, the Capstone Experience occurs in the student's last full semester, or the last semester in which they complete their H&S Major requirements. Students can fulfill the capstone requirement during a summer internship or project if this has been approved by the supervising faculty member and the Director of the Health and Society Program.
3. The Capstone project must be submitted for evaluation by the course instructor by the due date indicated on the syllabus. The Capstone essay must be submitted to the course instructor or Director of Health and Society by the due date indicated on the essay prompt. This prompt will be distributed well in advance of the due date. Both items will be separately assessed for achievement in relation to the student learning outcomes and the capstone rubric for Health and Society.