

# IR

## The Capstone

IR requires all concentrators to conduct a capstone project in their senior year. The capstone can take one of three forms: an internationally focused research paper for an IR-approved seminar, a directed research paper (Independent Study) on an international theme, or a two-semester honors thesis on a pressing global problem.

Capstone projects should be a deliberate choice. Capstones are not approved in hindsight and must be taken for a letter grade. Projects should be linked to an IR theme or the student's track or region. This can be achieved by taking a topic seminar that corresponds to your track and writing a paper on your region – or vice versa – taking a seminar on a country or region and writing a paper that covers an aspect related to your track. Be sure to check with the instructor to make sure this is possible.

- **Must be taken senior year.**
- **Must incorporate research in two languages.**
- **All capstones fulfill the Dean of the College's WRIT requirement.**
- **Must be taken for a letter grade.**

### Process

- 1. SELECT CAPSTONE OPTION**  
See website for process and deadlines.
- 2. DECIDE ON PROJECT**
- 3. CAPSTONE CATALOG**  
Upon completion of the project, submit catalog entry online. Required to graduate.

### Advising

IR Program advisors are available to guide you in making this a cumulative intellectual project. You may discuss your idea with Track or Concentration Advisors or the IR Director or Associate Director.

IR advisors do NOT oversee project **details** (that would be the seminar instructor, the independent study instructor, or the thesis committee.

### Evaluation

Grading of the capstone is by your seminar instructor, independent study sponsor, or faculty thesis director – depending on the capstone option you choose.

IR program faculty will review final capstone projects for assessment purposes.

### IR Capstone Catalog

All students are required to complete an entry in the online Capstone Catalog to graduate. This includes an abstract of the project and a reflective analysis of your intellectual growth as an IR student and your project's contribution to our understanding of IR themes and debates. The IR Capstone Catalog is advised and monitored by the IR Concentration Advisor.



# Capstone Options & Requirements

All options require capstone catalog entry upon project or paper completion.

	Senior Seminar Paper	Independent Study Research Paper*	Honors Thesis
<b>Time Requirement</b>	1 Semester	1 Semester	2 Semesters
<b>How</b>	1. Register for senior seminar in Banner	1. Submit Independent Study Proposal for IR approval 2. Register for IR Independent Study Project (ISP)  Deadline: must be approved prior to semester in which ISP is undertaken	1. Submit Honors Application 2. Acceptance into Honors Program 3. Register for Honors seminar  Deadline: April Jr. year
<b>Coursework &amp; Requirements</b>	1. INTL 18xx or IR-approved seminar 2. Research paper 3. Capstone Catalog	1. INTL 1970 2. Research paper with or without media component 3. Capstone Catalog	1. INTL 1910 (fall), and INTL 1920 (spring) 2. Thesis 3. Capstone Catalog
<b>Advising</b>	- Seminar instructor - IR Track & Concentration Advisor - IR faculty	- Faculty sponsor - IR Track & Concentration Advisor - IR faculty	- 1 <sup>st</sup> reader - 2 <sup>nd</sup> reader - Honors seminar instructor - IR Concentration Advisor - IR faculty
<b>Evaluation &amp; Grading</b>	- Seminar instructor	- Faculty sponsor	- Honors seminar instructor (Fall) - 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> readers (Spring)
<b>Public Product Options</b>	- ASK portfolio - Theories in Action (Dean of the College) - Undergrad journal submission - Poster session	- ASK portfolio - Theories in Action (Dean of the College) - Multi-media presentation - Undergrad journal submission - Poster session	- IR Honors Conference presentation (mandatory) - ASK portfolio - Theories in Action (Dean of the College) - Undergrad journal submission - Poster session

\* May include a media component (with IR approval).

\*\*Overrides given by IR Program Manager.