

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-SUPERIOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATING ARTS  
COMM 491: SENIOR CAPSTONE (0 credits)  
SENIOR YEAR EXPERIENCE  
(Revised 4/2019)**

**SENIOR CAPSTONE CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Required culminating senior year project, which integrates and synthesizes the student's coursework (theories, concepts, skill competencies) into a formal project and experience, negotiated with the student's major advisor and instructor for final consent and approval. Senior capstone is paired with another course in the major. See Communicating Arts major descriptions for paired courses in specific program areas (Communication, Theatre, Digital Filmmaking). Pass-Fail. Arranged.

**SENIOR CAPSTONE COURSE PAIRING OPTIONS:**

COMM 491 is a zero (0) credit course, which is paired with another credited course to fulfill this requirement. Courses permitted to be paired with 491 are dependent on the student's program area, as follows:

Communication Concentration:	332, 356, 370, 425, 455, 467, 495, 498
Theatre and Digital Filmmaking Concentration:	350, 455, 462, 495, 498

Students must consult with their advisor and receive permission from the instructor for the capstone designated course to be paired with COMM 491.

**STUDENT LEARNING GOALS:**

- Communication: Students will apply modes, styles, and conventions of a communication appropriate to the work and the audience
- Individual and Social Responsibility: Students will practice healthy interdependence and mutual respect through teamwork
- Creative and Critical Thinking: Students will consider multiple perspectives to produce original work

**SENIOR YEAR EXPERIENCE:**

Senior Year Experience at UW-Superior provides students critical opportunities to reflect upon, organize, analyze, synthesize, and apply all of their college learning experiences into an integrated culminating capstone project that represents their best work.

Sometimes called “senior capstones” or “Signature Works”, these culminating experiences require students nearing the end of their college years to create an extensive, personalized document, presentation, and/or portfolio that effectively integrates and demonstrates what each student has learned through their collegiate learning experiences at UW-Superior. Senior Year Experience projects represent liberal education at its best by helping students to effectively demonstrate that they are critical thinkers and effective communicators who are skilled in analysis and critical thinking, research and scholarship, integrated and applied learning, social and personal responsibility, and public presentation or performance.

As a component of their Senior Capstone, all students with a Theatre and Digital Filmmaking Concentration are required to complete a Senior Year Experience. The Senior Year Experience will:

1. Be public
2. Emphasize the inclusion of a liberal education background, while focusing on the major
3. Benefit the community of scholars
4. Emphasize originality and creativity

The public requirement can be in the form a conference-style presentation, a theatre performance or production, a KUWS broadcast, or inclusion of a video in the Annual UW-Superior Student Film and Video Showcase.

Students completing a Senior Year Experience are required to write a short reflective essay (4-6 pages) about their Senior Capstone, which addresses the four standards listed above. In the essay, view your capstone as the culminating experience of your liberal education. Connect it to what you have learned both in your major and across campus. Discuss what it means to present your work publicly to the community where you have learned. Elaborate on the process and experience of doing the capstone project. What about it do you think is original and creative?

**SENIOR CAPSTONE REGISTRATION:**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ SID \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Academic Advisor \_\_\_\_\_

Senior Capstone Paired Course:

Communication      332 \_\_\_\_ 356 \_\_\_\_ 370 \_\_\_\_ 425 \_\_\_\_ 455 \_\_\_\_ 467 \_\_\_\_

495 \_\_\_\_ 498 \_\_\_\_

Theatre and Digital      350 \_\_\_\_ 455 \_\_\_\_ 462 \_\_\_\_ 495 \_\_\_\_ 498 \_\_\_\_

Filmmaking\*

\*Requires a student to also complete a Senior Year Experience

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Fall, Spring, Summer (circle one) Year \_\_\_\_\_

*I understand and agree to the above requirements and deadlines. I realize that not meeting any of these agreed upon points may be cause for lowering my grade.*

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Instructor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_