

Comm 491 Capstone Experience

Comm 491 is a required course for all Speech Communication majors. This course is offered for 0 credits and must be paired with one of the following courses following the consent of your instructor COMM 332, 467, 475, 495, or 498.

The Capstone Experience's purpose is to examine your education as a Speech Communication major and how that education has influenced your understanding of what the field of Communication is and how its understanding can enrich, influence, and enhance your personal and professional life.

You'll complete all of the requirements of the course that you're pairing the Capstone with, however the final project will be custom designed and negotiated with the instructor as a Capstone final project. Students will work one-on-one with the instructor throughout the course to *negotiate the design and criteria* for successful completion of the Capstone.

A Capstone Project can be envisioned as a senior thesis, or a senior exit project. Unlike a senior thesis, your Capstone is not a stand-alone project unrelated to the course that you've paired it with, but one that relates to the content of the course. For example your Capstone in Communication in Conflict (332) will have a general theme throughout that engages the various aspects of conflict. Similar to a senior thesis, your Capstone project reflects a culmination of much of your coursework in speech communication.

Previous student's Capstones have ranged from the traditional paper to documentary films, manuals, service to the community, visual art, advertisements etc. Every Capstone experience requires a reflection paper that incorporates how current and previous coursework informed that project is required.