Honors Senior Capstone Standards

To ensure Honors students have flexibility in Capstones types, variations on the options below may be negotiated with your faculty supervisor, department Honors liaison, and Honors supervisor.

	Research Capstone	*Applied Research Capstone*	*Scholarly Service Capstone*	*Creative Capstone*
Capstone Products	Your Capstone products will include research in your discipline and a Capstone paper on that research. Your Capstone paper will ▪ be similar to a professional journal article in your field ▪ be an appropriate length for Capstones in your major ▪ be in the style (e.g., APA, MLA) used in your discipline ▪ address the expectations below	Your Capstone products will include applied research in your discipline, which may result in a product or a process, and a Capstone paper on that research. Your Capstone paper will ▪ be similar to a professional journal article in your field ▪ be an appropriate length for Capstones in your major ▪ be in the style (e.g., APA, MLA) used in your discipline ▪ address the expectations below	Your Capstone products will include a project addressing a need related to your discipline and a Capstone paper on the project. Your Capstone paper will ▪ be similar to a professional journal article in your field ▪ be an appropriate length for Capstones in your major ▪ be in the style (e.g., APA, MLA) used in your discipline ▪ address the expectations below	Your Capstone products will include a finished creative product that represents excellence in your chosen form of expression and a Capstone paper. Your Capstone paper will ▪ include a research essay explaining how the work relates to historical and, especially, current trends in your medium. The essay should also reflect on your creative choices and results. ▪ be an appropriate length for Capstones in your major ▪ be in the style (e.g., APA, MLA) of your discipline ▪ address the expectations below
Professionalism	To ensure you produce the highest quality Honors Capstone possible, make sure to ▪ Be proactive about contacting and meeting with faculty supervisor, departmental Honors liaison, and Honors supervisor. ▪ Stay in regular contact with faculty supervisor. When you meet with your faculty supervisor, be very organized so that you can optimize the time you spend together and advance your Capstone project. ▪ Make each draft as strong as possible before submission for feedback, including proofreading for typographical errors and for the correct style. Faculty supervisors can then focus on the substance of your work. Consider using KSU's Writing Center as a resource. ▪ Meet deadlines (listed above).			

	Research Capstone	*Applied Research Capstone*	*Scholarly Service Capstone*	*Creative Capstone*
Topic	Research question is ▪ clearly defined ▪ focused ▪ manageable ▪ potentially significant ▪ not fully explored by others	Research problem is ▪ clearly defined ▪ focused ▪ manageable ▪ potentially significant ▪ not fully explored by others	Need is ▪ clearly defined ▪ focused ▪ manageable ▪ potentially significant ▪ not fully explored by others	Potential product is ▪ creative ▪ manageable
Rationale & Context	Explanation of issues is ▪ stated clearly ▪ described thoroughly	Explanation of issues is ▪ stated clearly ▪ described thoroughly	Explanation of issues is ▪ stated clearly ▪ described thoroughly	Explanation of context is ▪ stated clearly ▪ described thoroughly
Review of Relevant Research	Sources ▪ sufficient number to understand topic ▪ appropriate to the scope and discipline Selected based on multiple evaluative criteria: ▪ relevance to the research question ▪ currency ▪ authority ▪ accuracy ▪ audience ▪ bias or point of view Review of related work includes ▪ description, interpretation, and evaluation of work of others ▪ a comprehensive analysis or synthesis of the topic	Sources ▪ sufficient number to understand problem ▪ appropriate to the scope and discipline Selected based on multiple evaluative criteria: ▪ relevance to the research question ▪ currency ▪ authority ▪ accuracy ▪ audience ▪ bias or point of view Review of related work includes ▪ description, interpretation, and evaluation of work of others ▪ a comprehensive analysis or synthesis of the topic	Sources ▪ sufficient number to understand need ▪ appropriate to the scope and discipline Selected based on multiple evaluative criteria: ▪ relevance to the research question ▪ currency ▪ authority ▪ accuracy ▪ audience ▪ bias or point of view Review of related work includes ▪ description, interpretation, and evaluation of work of others ▪ a comprehensive analysis or synthesis of the topic	Sources ▪ sufficient number to understand historical and current trends ▪ appropriate to the scope and discipline Selected based on multiple evaluative criteria: ▪ relevance to the research question ▪ currency ▪ authority ▪ accuracy ▪ audience ▪ bias or point of view Review of related work includes ▪ description, interpretation, and evaluation of work of others ▪ a comprehensive analysis or synthesis of the topic ▪

	Research Capstone	*Applied Research Capstone*	*Scholarly Service Capstone*	*Creative Capstone*
Methods/Approach	Methodology is - described clearly - appropriate for discipline	Methodology/Approach - described clearly - appropriate for discipline - identifies several possible approaches and advantages/disadvantages of each solution - proposes a solution that demonstrates a deep comprehension of the problem - evaluation of possible solutions includes history of the problem, feasibility of solution and potential impacts of solution Solution is sensitive to - context and constraints (materials, resources, etc.) - ethical and cultural dimensions of the problem	Methodology/Approach - described clearly - appropriate for discipline - identifies several possible approaches and advantages/disadvantages of each solution - proposes a solution that demonstrates a deep comprehension of the problem - evaluation of possible solution includes history of the problem, feasibility of solution and potential impacts of solution Solution is sensitive to - context and constraints (materials, resources, etc.) - ethical and cultural dimensions of the problem	Methodology/Approach is - described clearly - appropriate within discipline
Methods/Approach	Methodology is - described clearly - appropriate for discipline	Methodology/Approach - described clearly - appropriate for discipline - identifies several possible approaches and advantages/disadvantages of each - proposes a solution that demonstrates a deep comprehension of the problem - evaluation of possible solution includes history of the problem,	Methodology/Approach - described clearly - appropriate for discipline - identifies several possible approaches and advantages/disadvantages of each - proposes a solution that demonstrates a deep comprehension of the problem - evaluation of possible solution includes history of the problem,	Methodology/Approach is - described clearly - appropriate within discipline

	Research Capstone	Applied Research Capstone	Scholarly Service Capstone	Creative Capstone
		feasibility of solution and potential impacts of solution Solution is sensitive to ▪ context and constraints (materials, resources, etc.) ▪ ethical and cultural dimensions of the problem	feasibility of solution and potential impacts of solution Solution is sensitive to ▪ context and constraints (materials, resources, etc.) ▪ ethical and cultural dimensions of the problem	
Creative Thinking/ Creativity	**Capstone** ▪ Extends a novel or unique idea, question, format, or product ▪ Creates, deepens, or extends knowledge or produces knowledge that crosses boundaries. ▪ Connects, synthesizes, or transforms ideas.	**Capstone** ▪ Extends a novel or unique idea, question, format, or product. ▪ Creates, deepens, or extends knowledge or produces knowledge that crosses boundaries. ▪ Connects, synthesizes, or transforms ideas.	**Capstone** ▪ Identifies appropriate and innovative solution to needs. ▪ Creates, deepens, or extends an existing approach to address identified needs. ▪ Connects, synthesizes, or transforms ideas.	**Capstone** ▪ Develops a novel or unique idea, format, or product. ▪ Deepens or extends existing approaches, genres, or use of media or creates new form. ▪ Connects, synthesizes, or transforms ideas.
Quantitative Literacy	*Relevant for many Capstones* Calculations are ▪ accurate ▪ appropriate for addressing the problem ▪ presented elegantly (clearly, concisely, etc.) ▪ assumptions are described Quantitative analysis of data is the basis for	*Relevant for most Capstones* Calculations are ▪ accurate ▪ appropriate for addressing the problem ▪ presented elegantly (clearly, concisely, etc.) ▪ assumptions are described Quantitative analysis of data is the basis for ▪ discussion of research question	*Relevant for some Capstones* Calculations are ▪ accurate ▪ appropriate for addressing the problem ▪ presented elegantly (clearly, concisely, etc.) ▪ assumptions are described Quantitative analysis of data is the basis for ▪ discussion of research question	

	Research Capstone	Applied Research Capstone	Scholarly Service Capstone	Creative Capstone
	- discussion of research question - carefully qualified conclusions	- carefully qualified conclusions	- carefully qualified conclusions	
Discussion and Analysis	The Capstone paper - discusses the implementation of the research methods - synthesizes evidence gathered - reveals insightful patterns, differences, or similarities	Product/solution is implemented in a manner that - addresses thoroughly and deeply multiple contextual factors of the problem. The Capstone paper - discusses the implementation of the solution/product - synthesizes evidence gathered - reveals insightful patterns, differences, or similarities	Service project implements the solution/approach in a manner that - is based on student's research - addresses thoroughly and deeply multiple contextual factors of the problem. The Capstone paper - discusses the implementation of the service project - synthesizes evidence gathered	Creative product - demonstrates proficiency in chosen artistic form The Capstone paper - analyzes student's work in relation to historical context and work of other artists
Conclusions/Reflections	In the Capstone paper, conclusions - review results relative to the research question - summarize student's findings and analysis - are based on evidence - are logical - reflect student's informed evaluation and ability to synthesize evidence and perspectives of other researchers	In the Capstone paper, conclusions - review results relative to the problem defined - summarize student's findings and analysis - are based on evidence - are logical - reflect student's informed evaluation and ability to synthesize evidence and perspectives of other researchers - provide specific recommendations for	In the Capstone paper, conclusions - review results relative to the need defined - summarize student's findings and analysis - are based on evidence - are logical - reflect student's informed evaluation and ability to synthesize evidence and perspectives of others - provide specific recommendations for	In the Capstone paper, conclusions - evaluate creative process and product using domain-appropriate criteria.

	Research Capstone	Applied Research Capstone	Scholarly Service Capstone	Creative Capstone
	• provide specific recommendations for other researchers	others addressing the problem	others addressing the problem	
Written Communication	**Context of and Purpose for Writing** Demonstrates a thorough understanding of context, audience, and purpose that is responsive to the assigned task(s) and focuses all elements of the work. **Genre and Disciplinary Conventions** Demonstrates detailed attention to and successful execution of a wide range of conventions particular to a specific discipline and/or writing task (s) including organization, content, presentation, formatting, and stylistic choices **Control of Syntax and Mechanics** Uses graceful language that skillfully communicates meaning to readers with clarity and fluency, and is virtually error free.			