

Course Syllabus

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Fish 493 Capstone Preparation, 1 credit (graded)

Course description and aims:

The capstone experience provides a unique opportunity to implement your degree learning in novel ways and to contribute to science early in your career. The aim of this first class in the series is to help you develop a research proposal that will be used as a framework for your research in subsequent quarters. This is the *only* part of the capstone series where you attend an actual class—in subsequent quarters (494 & 495) you will be meeting with your adviser. Your proposal will be developed in collaboration with your faculty adviser; this class supports your efforts and provides additional support in your writing. You are required to meet with the instructor (Dr Jensen) and identify a capstone adviser and research project *before* the quarter starts.

Specific goals are:

- To develop a clear understanding of research processes and issues in experimental design
- To learn to clearly articulate your research context, aims and objectives
- To write in a clear and concise manner a research proposal that articulates the context of your research, the aims and objectives of your proposed research, and the experimental design or research approach

The product of this class, a graded proposal, is required for registration in Fish 494, Capstone Research.

Instructor:

Dr. Gregory Jensen, School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences,

Office: FSH Room 324B email: [gjensen@uw.edu \(mailto:gjensen@uw.edu\)](mailto:gjensen@uw.edu)

Meeting times:

Every other Friday, 11:30 am-12:20 pm, in room 329.

Course website:

Materials will be disseminated through the course Canvas website. The website includes documentation outlining the capstone process, guidance on writing a proposal, and links to relevant supporting material.

Method of instruction:

The class will be used to guide the development of your proposal in conjunction with your capstone adviser. Meeting times will be used to share your ideas with your colleagues and to develop your proposal. The first three meetings will be partly lecture-based, and will introduce you to some background necessary for proposal development. You will formally present your research ideas in a short (4-5 minute) Powerpoint presentation and 45 second 'elevator talk' in the last class meeting. Each class has a task associated with it – you will be asked to contribute to the discussion board, upload files, give a presentation, or review your colleague's work.

Grading:

Project summary: 5%

Annotated bibliography: 20%

Draft proposal: 10%

Oral presentations: 10%

Powerpoint slides: 10%

Peer review: 15%

Proposal: 30%.

Syllabus:


Session topic	Objectives and Activities	Deadlines
Jan 11: Introduction	Learn about the capstone process and available facilities and equipment.	Jan 18: Submit a research topic title and brief summary of your proposed project to Canvas.
Jan 25: Experimental and sampling design	Learn some of the basics of experimental and sampling	

design.

Feb 8: Proposals and Powerpoint presentations	What to do (and not do) when presenting and writing	Feb 8: Post an annotated bibliography with at least 10 references that support your proposal development.
Feb 22: Proposal review	Peer review of draft proposals	Feb 22: Draft proposal due by 2 pm.
Mar 8: Proposal presentations	4-5 minute Powerpoint presentation of research proposal 45 second 'elevator talk'	Mar 8: e-mail Powerpoint presentation to instructor by 2 pm Mar 21: final proposal due (does NOT require your adviser's signature at this point, but fine if you have it)

Course Summary:

Date	Details	
Fri Jan 18, 2019	 Research topic (https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1256091/assignments/4564515)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Feb 8, 2019	 Annotated bibliography (https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1256091/assignments/4564512)	due by 11:59pm
Fri Feb 22, 2019	 Draft proposal (https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1256091/assignments/4564513)	due by 2pm

Date	Details
Thu Mar 21, 2019	 Final proposal (https://canvas.uw.edu/courses/1256091/assignments/4564514) due by 11:59pm

