Honors Capstone Process

To submit your Honors Capstone Project proposal, meet with your faculty mentor and answer each of the questions below. Then go to <http://go.niu.edu/honorscapstone> enter your information, the course and faculty information, attach this completed form, and submit. Your project proposal will then be forwarded to your faculty mentor, department chair, and the Honors Program for approval.

**Title of Proposed Project:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

Define a question that your project will address. This could be a response to a problem, the solution to a concern or need, or how you will express your creative vision. (Remember that the project can be scholarly, creative, service-oriented, innovative/entrepreneurial, or community engagement). **What is your Honors Capstone question? (50 – 100 words)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

Develop a plan for carrying out the project that incorporates the following elements, as appropriate to the nature of the project: relevant skills, methodologies, and resources. **Please describe below your methodology to investigate your question and your plan for completing your project. (250-500 words)**

Click or tap here to enter text.

Each capstone project will address the following learning outcomes:

**Critical Thinking**: Students will demonstrate the ability to think in critical and creative ways to describe an issue or problem with understanding and clarity by summarizing, comparing, and synthesizing different pieces of evidence.

**Written Communication:** Students will submit a final paper. This may be a research paper, senior design report, or a description and submission of their final creative project.

**Oral Communication:** Students will present their project at the fall Honors Day Poster event, CURE, or another Honors-approved venue.

**Which additional learning outcomes will you focus on for this project? Select all that apply.**

**Subject Mastery:** Students will demonstrate mastery of their capstone project content.

**Ability to work Collaboratively:** Students will work as part of a team that facilitates group contributions, makes meaningful contributions to the group’s goals, communicates clearly and respectfully.

**Cultural Competence:** Students will demonstrate valuing, respecting, and appreciating diversity. They will demonstrate inclusiveness, self-awareness, and sensitivity while avoiding bias and working against the perpetuation of systemic inequities.

**Problem Solving:** Students will identify and define a problem and explore and critically evaluate approaches to solving the problem.

**Learning to work Independently:** Students will complete work with minimal assistance and take initiative when appropriate.

**Learning ethical conduct in research:** Students will demonstrate awareness of ethical issues related to their capstone project, examine how the issues apply to their work, and integrate, synthesize, and apply knowledge of ethical dilemmas and resolutions in their research project.

**Other** (Please Describe) Click or tap here to enter text.

**What are your plans for presenting your capstone project?**

Honors Poster Event (fall only)

CURE (spring only)

Departmental Showcase

Recital

Local/Regional Conference, Title of Conference: Click or tap here to enter text.

National Conference, Title of Conference: Click or tap here to enter text.

Undecided at this time

**What course are you taking to complete your capstone project?** Use the capstone course list and contact your department to verify the course and the process for registering.

[**Subject & Course Number**](https://niuits-my.sharepoint.com/personal/a1599341_mail_niu_edu/Documents/Desktop/Honors%20Capstone%20Courses%20-%20updated%207-18-24.docx)**:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Course Title:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Section Number:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Class Number:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Describe your plan for communication with your mentor, i.e., where and how often you will meet and your mode of communication (face-to-face, telephone, email, Teams, Zoom).**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**The capstone project is graded by your professor. List the tentative due dates/deadlines to submit IRB (if appropriate), drafts, final project, and criteria on which your project will be evaluated.\***

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Do you have any additional comments about this project?**

Click or tap here to enter text.

\*All final submissions must include a written paper. In the event you select a non-paper-based project (e.g., video, performance, artistic endeavor), a 500-1000 word summary is required in addition to the final output that discusses the project and the findings. This summary is to be submitted in conjunction with all capstone material by the due date.