

Course Outline IDS 250 Liberal Arts Capstone

SECTION I

SUBJECT AREA AND COURSE NUMBER: IDS 250

COURSE TITLE: Liberal Arts Capstone

COURSE CATALOG DESCRIPTION: An interdisciplinary course focusing on a theme affecting cross sections of humanity. The course is designed to broaden students' perspectives beyond their own culture or discipline and to provide an opportunity for the integration of knowledge gained in General Education courses taken previously. The course will have a rigorous writing component and is required for all students graduating from the Liberal Arts Program (this requirement applies to students who enroll in the Fall of 2007 or later).

LECTURE HOURS PER WEEK: 3

CREDIT HOURS: 3

PREREQUISITES: ENG 101, ENG 102. Students must be in their second year (i.e. 30+ credits) of the Liberal Arts and Sciences degree program to take this course.

SECTION II

A. SCOPE: The topic for each section of the class will vary according to the individual instructor's design, but will typically include the help of guest professors and outside experts from different academic disciplines and areas. The course will feature student presentations, visits to outside institutions and organizations and provide a multidisciplinary perspective of the chosen theme or topic. Topics commonly used for the class have been "Immigration," "Counter Culture of the 1960s," "Freedom of Speech" and "Women Studies."

B. REQUIRED WORK: Determined by the instructor

C. ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION: Students are expected to attend all classes and participate in the Seminar discussions, and lead at least one round table discussion. The professor will be available for individual consultation during scheduled office hours.

D. METHODS OF INSTRUCTION: Will vary according to instructor but may include but not be limited to seminar style discussions, guest lectures, field trips and project oriented collaborative learning activities.

E. OBJECTIVES, OUTCOMES, AND ASSESSMENT:

The class will meet the Following Designated General Education Core Competency:

- a. Written Communication (WC)

The class will meet the following **Embedded General Education Core Competencies:**

- b. Oral Communication (OC)
- c. Critical Analysis/Logical Thinking (CA)
- d. Continuing Learning/Information Literacy (CL)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES	LEARNING OUTCOMES	ASSESSMENT METHODS
To demonstrate an understanding of:	Student will:	As measured by:
Responsibility for one's own learning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend regularly and on time • Participate fully in class activities • Demonstrate responsibility for knowing, completing, and when necessary, 	Attendance records Class records Regular Participation in class discussions. Contributing to round table student led seminar sessions Assignment records, including

	making up assignments	timely drafts In Class student presentations show responsibility for leading the class discussion and preparing material.
Oral Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporate and synthesize ideas from researched sources into a coherent, persuasive and organized argument on a particular topic. • Engage in seminar discussion, listen and respond appropriately to the speech of others • (OC 1-5) 	<p>Individual Class Presentations will show that students have gathered, organized and presented a meaningful session on a topic of their choosing as well as show that students can respond to wide ranging questions from his/her audience</p> <p>Participation in Roundtable discussions Active engagement with faculty and staff during Poster Session Presentations</p>
Global Perspective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify controversies and cross-cultural perspectives on issues and events related to course topic 	<p>Participation in Roundtable discussions</p> <p>Position Papers will demonstrate engagement with multi-cultural aspects of a subject</p> <p>Adequate questioning of guest speakers.</p>
Written Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Craft logical arguments, apply standard language conventions, effective writing strategies and appropriate research systems of documentation. • (WC 1-5), (CL 2,3) 	<p>Evidence in Position Papers of thesis, detail, evidence in support of a clear position Evidence in Research Essay of knowledge of MLA documentation formatting Final Portfolio Compilation shows that students have worked through the writing process, edited their work substantially and revised the final versions of the assignments</p>

<p>Continuing Learning / Information Literacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show ability to evaluate sources in order to determine their reliability, distinguish fact from opinion • Demonstrate competence in detecting illogical arguments, false generalizations and biased information (CL 2, 3) 	<p>Research Essay will reflect a synthesizing of materials into a reasoned, logically coherent argument.</p> <p>Position papers will directly confront readings in specific ways that reveal a student's grasp of textual analysis</p>
<p>Critical Analysis and Logical Thinking</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate competence in argumentation, assessing different viewpoints and compiling well-reasoned analysis of a chosen particular subject. • Analyze tone, reliability, ambiguity and evidence in texts. • Distinguish between two or more disciplinary approaches to understanding the course subject • (CA 1-4) 	<p>Research Essay will demonstrate that students have synthesized different viewpoints and clearly articulated a solid thesis with sufficient detail and support. Evidence in Final Portfolio Compilation that student has approached a particular topic from at least two distinct disciplines by incorporating evidence and examples from guest speakers, multi-discipline reading materials and research across disciplines.</p> <p>In Class presentations show that student can respond to wide ranging questions from his/her audience</p> <p>In class notes taken during guest presenters shows evidence of engaging with material.</p>

Core Competency Assessment Artifact(s)

An assignment from this course that addresses all the competencies noted above may be collected to assess student learning across the school.

F: TEXTS AND MATERIALS: To be determined by the instructor

G: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Use of Blackboard Learn, Internet, Films, On-line databases.