

Policies

Interdisciplinary Studies 4300



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Office: BAB 316
Student Conference Hours: By arrangement

Course Text:

n/a

Portfolio Capstone Seminar

Objectives:

The objectives of the senior portfolio capstone course are to prepare graduating seniors for their educational/professional pursuits beyond graduation and to synthesize and analyze their educational experience at university. The course will encourage more intense development of language and critical-thinking skills as befitting graduates of a program in interdisciplinary studies. Finally, the course hopes to build further appreciation of multiple perspectives that reflect intellectual and cultural diversity within and beyond college.

Course Description:

Portfolio Capstone is designed to help students develop strategies and skills necessary for success beyond their college careers. Topics include professionalization, further academic goals, career paths, networking, and self-assessments. Students will learn about the vast array of opportunities post-graduation while compiling and assessing their growth as academics during their college career at Sul Ross. Throughout the course, students will use critical thinking skills to make informed choices, to understand their responsibilities for academic and professional success, and to further become independent, motivated learners and professionals. Students will learn to evidence their assessments and growth via documents such as a professional resume or curriculum vitae, a capstone project, and a course portfolio.

Program Learning Objectives:

1. Involve students in applying personal and academic success strategies and evidentiary documents that advance intellectual and professional intellectual development.
2. Engage students in critical analysis and creative thinking.

Marketable Skills

1. Students will communicate effectively in writing and speaking.
2. Students will use different research strategies to address problems and develop ideas that engage a variety of perspectives.
3. Students will recognize how social and cultural contexts shape meaning and language.

Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Implement personal academic assessment.
2. Understand available post-graduate professional and academic opportunities.
3. Discuss the academic experience, personal aspirations, and professional goals in comprehensive expository writings.
4. Exhibit critical analyses via the presentations of professional documents.
5. Synthesize academic coursework from two disciplines into a capstone project.
6. Discuss the importance of an interdisciplinary degree from SRSU in the larger community.

Portfolio Capstone Seminar

Attendance & Class Participation

Your attention to and participation in this asynchronous course are reflected in your grade. Please be proactive in informing the professor of any expected absences in advance in order to meet class requirements. Please note that the instructor can see when and for how long you log into classes, and work, including discussion boards, are all time-stamped. If work is turned in late, ten points will be deducted from the grade, regardless of how late the work is, unless the late work is excused as defined in the student handbook or extended prior to the due date of assignment. I do not take late work of any kind beyond the final examination period.

Assignments

The course will consist of four major assignment areas, which are described briefly below. More detailed assignments will be made available to you (i.e. the portfolio and the introductory essay).

Journal Elements (and/or discussion boards): The journal elements will be brief essays (500 words) on topics associated with the course progression and are listed in the syllabus. They will work toward your professionalization and self-analysis of academic development and professional aspirations. They will also help develop your expository writing skills. The journal elements will be turned in as **one** Word or PDF document at the assignments link in Blackboard at end of term, with a page break between elements and each element marked clearly by its number.

Introductory Essay: The introductory essay will be turned in twice, once as its own document at the assignments link in Blackboard and then again with the portfolio. The elaborated assignment will appear at the assignments link.

Portfolio: The full portfolio will feature examples of work achieved in your academic journey at Sul Ross State University, one major scholarly paper or project from each major discipline courses. These will be revised and edited to represent the student's most accomplished work.

Capstone Project: The capstone project will be designed by the student in consultation with appropriate faculty and will combine the two major disciplines into a paper or project and will be presented orally at the end of term.

Academic Honesty

"The University expects all students to engage in all academic pursuits in a manner that is beyond reproach and to maintain complete honesty and integrity in the academic experiences both in and out of their classroom. The University may initiate disciplinary proceedings against a student accused of any form of academic dishonesty, including but not limited to, cheating on an examination or other academic work, plagiarism, collusion, and the abuse of resource materials."

Portfolio Capstone Seminar

--Excerpt from the Student Handbook

Accommodations

If you are uncomfortable with an online and/or distance academic environment, please make an appointment with me. I am happy to “walk” you through the course.

Disabilities and Counseling Services

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student’s responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas 79832. Telephone: 432-837-8203.

SRSU Library Services

The Sul Ross Library offers FREE resources and services to the entire SRSU community. Access and borrow books, articles, and more by visiting the library’s website, library.sulross.edu. Off-campus access requires your Lobo ID and password. Check out materials using your photo ID. Librarians are a tremendous resource for your coursework and can be reached in person, by email (srsulibrary@sulross.edu), or phone (432-837-8123).

Video Classroom Statement

This statement applies to synchronous online courses as well as for online video conferences:

In order to ensure the successful completion of this course, as well as to allow attendance to be monitored when meeting synchronously, students must enable their video cameras during class times if we choose to conduct video meetings, unless otherwise approved by the instructor. In addition, the video classroom or office hours will be treated as a formal academic environment: Students must attend prepared and appropriately attired.

Late Work

Late work is accepted with a ten-point deduction for being late unless arrangements have been made prior to the due-date and documentation is provided for excused absences. These include illness for which a doctor prohibits class attendance, a death of an immediate member of your family, and a school-sanctioned event, such as debate, student government conference, athletics, etc.

Grade Breakdown:

Journal Elements

20%

Portfolio Capstone Seminar

Discussion Boards	20%
Portfolio Introduction Essay	20%
Portfolio	20%
Capstone	20%

Grading Scale:

90-100 =A

80-89 =B

70-79 =C

60-69 =D

Below 60=F

