ENTM 49300 - Entomology Capstone Element II

Course Information
ENTM 493 – Entomology Capstone Element II
1-3 credits (variable) (every Spring and Fall semester)
www.entm.purdue.edu/courses/493/index.html

Instructor
Arranged (Capstone Mentor or Drs. Richmond or Mason)

Summary
This course is an experiential meant to provide students with an avenue for fulfilling their capstone requirement. Students may use a research, outreach, study abroad, internship experience or some combination thereof to meet this requirement. Although the capstone project may build on or extend a previously conducted undergraduate research project, independent study, or study abroad, students enrolled in ENTM 49300 must conduct their capstone project in a manner that is independent from, or in addition to any other project for which credit will be awarded or for which they will be paid as an employee.

Prerequisites
ENTM 49200 (Capstone Element I)

Course Objectives
In completing this course, students will demonstrate their ability to integrate their accumulated knowledge and technical and social skills in order to identify and solve a problem relevant to Entomology, and communicate the results of their efforts to their peers through two avenues --- an oral presentation and a written summary or poster.

Evaluation of Learning
The capstone mentor will assign the final capstone grade. However, in cases where the capstone mentor is not a member of the Purdue Department of Entomology Faculty, Drs. Richmond (C6365) or Mason (C3684) will assign the final grade in consultation with the capstone mentor. When registering for this class it is essential that the proper course registration number (CRN#) be used so that the correct faculty member is designated for final grade assignment. Evaluation will be based on:

1. The quality and organization of the oral presentation to the Department (See COA oral communication rubric on the ENTM 49300 course website)

2. The quality and organization of the written report (poster or project summary) to be submitted to, and approved by, the student’s capstone mentor. For guidance on putting together your written summary, see the COA written communication rubric on the ENTM 49300 course website. After the mentor has approved the written summary, the student must upload the capstone summary or poster using the upload space provided on the ENTM 49300 course website. Summaries and posters will be posted for viewing on this website.

3. The students understanding of the work and its implications for the science of Entomology

4. The students’ level of commitment to the project.
Grading
Quality and organization of the oral presentation......................................................100 pts
Quality and organization of the written report or poster............................................100 pts
Student understanding of the work and its implications............................................100 pts
Commitment to the project ........................................................................................100 pts

Consult with your capstone mentor (or Drs. Richmond or Mason when applicable) to
determine what grading scale (A-F) will be used.

Project Types
Research Capstone: The student will conduct a research experiment, which includes all the
elements of the scientific method (hypothesis, experimentation, results and conclusions). The
student should include in the presentation, an overview and significance of the problem,
approach, findings and conclusions.

Outreach Capstone: The student will conduct an outreach project relevant to some aspect of
entomology. A project may consist of, but is not expressly limited to any of the following: a
survey of attitudes or opinions related to some aspect of entomology, an extension publication, or
educational tools and materials (website, training or teaching tools, collections, or materials
aimed at raising awareness and appreciation of entomology in the general public or classroom).
In the presentation, the student should include an overview of the clientele (target audience), the
need for this type of program/material and assessment of the impact of the project.

Internship: Student will participate in an examination of the entomological issues associated
with some aspect of the food, agricultural, or pest management industry. For example a student
might intern at a seed company and study entomological issues the industry is addressing, how
they are approaching the problems (plant breeding, molecular, traditional plant resistance), and
future directions (such as GMO). The student presentation which would include an overview of
the issue the industry is addressing, the approaches that are being employed and progress that is
being made.

Study Abroad: While abroad, the student will conduct a research, outreach, internship or review
of some aspect of entomology unique to that area/region. If the student selects the research,
outreach or internship project, the general guidelines listed above will pertain. If the student
chooses the review project, it should demonstrate that the student has acquired a greater
appreciation for an entomological issue facing that country/region, or provide novel insight
gained through the study abroad experience. The student presentation should include an
overview of the problem/system, popular approaches to solving the problem, and comparison to
the U.S. system when applicable.
Role of the capstone mentor
The mentor will provide day to day advice, support and guidance and will periodically review student progress. The mentor will assist the student in selecting a project, developing a project outline, conducting the project and organizing and presenting materials. The mentor will also be responsible for assigning the final capstone grade, unless the mentor is not a member of the Purdue Department of Entomology Faculty (primarily study abroad and internship options). In such instances, the mentor will provide consultation to Drs. Richmond or Mason, who will then assign the final grade. Again, the student must enroll in ENTM 49300 under the faculty identifier for the capstone mentor, or in cases where the mentor is not a member of the Purdue Department of Entomology Faculty, the faculty identifier for Drs. Richmond (C6365) or Mason (C3684) must be used. The faculty mentor is also responsible for completing the COA oral and written communication rubrics based on their evaluation of the students’ oral presentation and written summary, respectively. After completion, the rubrics should be provided to the departmental representative to the COA Curriculum and Student Relations Committee.

Scheduling the Capstone Presentation and Completing the Written Summary
An oral presentation of the capstone project is required from every student enrolled in Entomology Capstone Element II. A date (or two) will be specified during the 14th week of each Spring and Fall semester, and all students wishing to make their oral presentation will be required to participate in this pre-scheduled Capstone Forum. A final schedule for the capstone forum will be posted on Departmental website during the 12th week of every Spring and Fall semester. Capstone presentations should be limited to 12 minutes with an additional 3 minutes for questions. Questions concerning the capstone requirements should be directed to:

Dr. Doug Richmond
Assistant Professor
Department of Entomology
105C SMTH
Ph: 494-0399
Email: drichmond@purdue.edu

Dr. Linda Mason
Professor
Department of Entomology
105B SMTH
Ph: 494-4586
Email: lmason@purdue.edu

If you require special technical assistance with AV or computer equipment for your presentation, please contact Valerie Wininger. However, the capstone forum will be set-up with a computer and LCD projector by default.

Valerie Wininger
Department of Entomology
WSLR 111
Ph: 494-4596
Email: wininger@purdue.edu

For additional information: http://www.entm.purdue.edu/courses/493/capstone.html
Required Text and Reference Materials
There is no required textbook for this course.

Classroom Policies

Academic Honesty
“To foster a climate of trust and high standards of academic achievement, Purdue University is committed to cultivating academic integrity and expects students to exhibit the highest standards of honor in their scholastic endeavors. Academic integrity is essential to the success of Purdue University’s mission. As members of the academic community, our foremost interest is toward achieving noble educational goals and our foremost responsibility is to ensure that academic honesty prevails.” (Purdue University Regulations, Part 5, Section II). In compliance with this policy, any instance of plagiarism, cheating, dishonesty, or the facilitation thereof will result in a grade of 0 for the assignment. If a second instance occurs, the student will be reported to the Dean of Students.

Students with Disabilities
“Students with disabilities are expected to meet the same academic standards as all students in their respective programs. In some cases, however, it is necessary that they receive academic adjustments to make the educational opportunity more accessible. Academic adjustments may include, but are not limited to, alternative testing methods, copies of instructor notes, enlarged handouts, distraction-limited testing, extra time for exams, no in-class spelling penalty, note-taker in class, readers, in-class sign language interpreter, permission to tape record lectures, etc. To receive academic adjustments, a student must register with and provide documentation of his or her disabling condition to the Adaptive Programs staff of the Office of the Dean of Students.” (Purdue University Policies and Procedures, on-line handbook)