

IDST 495–741 Interdisciplinary Studies Capstone
Fall 2022

INSTRUCTOR:

Dr. Anne Heintzman, Pedagogical Assistant Professor

Web-based (no meetings or tests requiring travel or f2f)

Email: anne.heintzman@wku.edu (email contact is preferred)

Office Telephone: 270-745-2966; Personal Cell Phone: 502-552-0765

Faculty Office Location: GRH 2017

CATALOG COURSE DESCRIPTION:

BIS major (558), senior standing, or permission of the instructor. Examination of interdisciplinary scholarship and problem solving, with application based on students' areas of emphasis in their major.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This Capstone course is for all Interdisciplinary Studies majors, and also for others interested in building upon upon the relationships of meaning and interpretation within your areas of interest. This course helps to focus your direction of study and better prepare yourself for life after graduation in a professional manner. The intent of this course is to investigate, discuss and critique the issues, ideas and theories relevant to the interdisciplinary coursework. It is a personalized class and, while everyone will complete the basic course requirements, the specific concerns (research projects) will differ with each student. In respect to each person's areas of study, each student will be pursuing individualized research project along with a career portfolio that demonstrates his or her unique direction at WKU.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

This course offers and exploration of interdisciplinary scholarship and problem solving, with application based on students' area of emphasis in the major. At the completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of “interdisciplinarity” and the research methods of one's emphasis
- Create an interdisciplinary research project that demonstrates integrative problem-solving skills
- Relate interdisciplinary thinking to complex issues involving people, ideas, cultural changes, as well as life outside of the university
- Organize a career portfolio including reflections on goals, learning, abilities, knowledge, and skills

CLASS MATERIAL:

- No Textbook Required – all readings are provided on Blackboard

TECHNOLOGY/MEDIA:

Participation in this class will require access to a computer, a reliable internet connection, competency in Microsoft Word and Blackboard, along with basic research skills using both internet sources and WKU Library databases.

Assignments: Total: 1000 pts

- Self-Introduction 50 pts
- Interdisciplinary Autobiography 100 pts
- TED Talk Reflection Paper 150 pts
- Capstone Research Project 300 pts
 - Research Proposal 50 pts
 - Source list 50 pts
 - Paper 200 pts
- Resume development 50 pts draft; 50 pts WKU Career Center Feedback; 100 pts final (200 pts)

- Career Portfolio 150 pts
- Professionalism (timeliness, communication with others, quality of work...) 50 pts

Detailed information about these assignments will be available as the course progresses on Blackboard.

GRADING SCALE

The final course grade will be based on how many points you have earned during the semester.

900-1000	= A
800-899	= B
700-799	= C
600-699	= D
0-599	= F

WKU POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Plagiarism (Important)

To represent ideas or interpretations taken from another source as one's own is plagiarism –a form of cheating. Plagiarism is a serious offense that can result in a failing grade and more. *See WKU's student handbook academic dishonesty policy [here](#).* The academic work of students must be their own. Students must give the author(s) credit for any source material used. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage after having changed a few words, even if the source is cited, is also plagiarism.

Statement of Diversity

Western Kentucky University is committed to empowering its campus community to embrace diversity by building equitable and inclusive learning, working, and living environments. At the heart of our mission, we seek to provide holistic education and employment experiences that prepare students, faculty, and staff to become effective scholars, contributors, and leaders in our diverse and evolving communities. To that end, this classroom is an inclusive space where all participants are welcomed and treated with respect, dignity, and acceptance. Immoral, illegal, or unethical behavior and/or communication will not be tolerated. More information on Diversity at WKU can be found [here](#).

ADA Accommodation Statement

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, Room 1074. The SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU's [Sex and Gender-Based Discrimination, Harassment, and Retaliation](#) (#0.070) and [Discrimination and Harassment Policy](#) (#0.2040). Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based

on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121. Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and MUST report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s [Counseling and Testing Center](#) at 270-745-3159.



[Sexual Assault Resources](#)

Things You Should Know



[Academic Integrity](#)



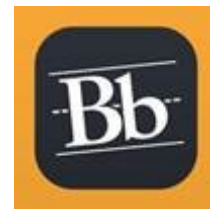
[Student Code of Conduct](#)



[Student Handbook](#)



[Student Resource Portal](#)



[Blackboard Student](#)

If Issues Arise



[Student Complaint Procedures](#)



[Student Grievance Procedures](#)



[Student Ombuds](#)



[Student Legal Services](#)

Be Prepared: Know Where To Go



[All Gender Restroom](#)



[Safe Space](#)



[WKU Emergency Preparedness](#)



[Active Shooter Preparedness](#)



[WKU Police](#)



[Counseling and
Testing](#)



[Food Security](#)



[Center for Literacy](#)

All information on WKU policies in class syllabi can be found [here](#)