



## **Capstone Learning Experience Coursework-Only Option Petition Guidelines**

All students must complete a Capstone Learning Experience (CLE), an upper-level focused course of study, which culminates a student's major. Typically, the capstone learning experience takes the form of a 6- to 12-credit Senior Year Research Project (SYRP). For some students, a coursework-only capstone learning experience could be more appropriate. In this case, they may *petition* to complete the coursework-only option. *A student is eligible to petition for a coursework-only capstone learning experience only with an approved major on file.*

A Coursework-Only Option CLE replaces the SYRP with a series of courses at the 300-400 level taken in a student's final year, which either focuses or broadens a student's perspective on the major.

The coursework option is available by petition, and must be approved by the faculty advisor and the Dean of Academics. A petition must include both 1. a narrative of how the coursework-only option will serve as a capstone for the major and 2. an annotated list of courses to be completed as part of the capstone experience.

The petition should use the following format:

- A 1-page narrative of academic rationale for coursework-only option, which includes a description of how the courses work together to create a thematically connected course of study.
- List of proposed courses, including:
  - Course titles, numbers, and semester,
  - Total credits in coursework option (a minimum of 12),
  - Annotation describing how each individual course contributes to a CLE (approx. 50 words each).
- Relevant independent studies may be included in the petition. Any future independent study listed must be accompanied by a proposal approved by a prospective faculty advisor.

At least 6 credits of the proposed coursework must be beyond (or outside) the minimum expectations for completion of the major.

This petition must be submitted **by the end of a student's junior year**. An approved Capstone Learning Experience (a SYRP or a Coursework-Only Petition) must be on file before the student begins their senior year.