



# Master Course Syllabus

For additional course information, including prerequisites, corequisites, and course fees, please refer to the Catalog: <https://catalog.uvu.edu/>

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**Semester:** Spring

**Year:** 2025

**Course Prefix:** IS      **Course and Section #:** 4990 I01      **Course Title:** Capstone II

**Credits:** 3

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## ***Course Description***

The purpose of this course is to write and defend an interdisciplinary undergraduate thesis, which is a major research paper with scholarly citations.

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## ***Course Attributes***

This course has the following attributes:

- General Education Requirements
- Global/Intercultural Graduation Requirements
- Writing Enriched Graduation Requirements
- Discipline Core Requirements in Program
- Elective Core Requirements in Program
- Open Elective

Other: *Click here to enter text.*

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## ***Instructor Information***

**Instructor Name:** Greg Jackson

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## ***Student Learning Outcomes***

Demonstrate ability to take initiative, work as a team member, and communicate effectively with multiple faculty thesis mentors.

- Demonstrate advanced ability to synthesize and integrate information from two or more disciplinary areas by writing a major research paper.
- Defend senior thesis orally before a formal defense committee comprised of multidisciplinary faculty thesis mentors.

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## ***Course Materials and Texts***

Varies according to student's research.

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## ***Course Requirements***

### **Course Assignments, Assessments, and Grading Policy**

Grade	Percent
A	94-100
A-	90-93
B+	87-89
B	83-86
B-	80-82

C+	77-79
C	73-76
C-	70-72
D+	67-69
D	63-66
D-	60-62
E	0-59

**January 16: Deadline to send me your completed, signed Thesis Proposal (20 points).**

This is the assignment, and again, January 16 is a true “dead” deadline, you should be able to do this sooner because ... all you have to do to get 100% on this ... is upload your signed off, completed thesis proposal. Yep. That’s it. This is my way of making sure it’s done, your area mentors are truly on board, and that I can read this before we meet.

**January 20-24: Met with your discipline mentors and with me.**

You will need general guidance on the scholarly materials that will help you prove (or disprove) your thesis. You should take counsel from your discipline mentors on the research that you have done to date and seek specific advice on what additional books, articles, manuscripts, or other research materials may be relevant to your thesis from their discipline. You should also ask each mentor to share any additional advice they may wish to give. Research often results in your having to refocus or even change your thesis.

*Note: You should take notes on what advice you were given by them so that you can provide your IS mentor with an accurate and full report.*

Note Two: This is an \*as needed\* process through the semester. I expect you'll meet with your mentors and me more than once as you prepare your first draft.

**March 5: First Draft Due (30 points).**

Your first draft is due today. ***This is an ironclad deadline.*** This is to *be a good first draft, not a 'rough' draft*. You should complete it with sufficient time to edit and revise it and to take it to the writing center if necessary. If there are multiple serious grammatical errors in the first few pages of this draft, it will be returned to you with instructions to take it to the writing center.

Upload the assignment on Canvas but **DO NOT FORGET TO EMAIL IT TO YOUR DISCIPLINE MENTORS AS WELL!** You should continue to meet with all three of us (individually or collectively) as you hone this into the final draft.

**March 28: Final Draft Due (no grade yet, but points to lose if not turned in).**

Here's the deal: while I will submit and ultimately decide you're the grade on your final draft, I will take what your discipline mentors think very seriously; so seriously, in fact, that I won't issue a grade until I've discussed this with your mentors. Nonetheless, I will incentivize you to meet this deadline by taking 10 points if you miss this deadline (and an additional 10 points for every passing week). Your mentors and I will issue you a grade for this at your defense. Which brings us to your last step ... **April 15-22 – December 8: Thesis Defense of Final Draft (150 points).**

Once all three mentors approve the thesis, the thesis defense needs to be scheduled. Your IS mentor will let you know whether and when you should attempt to schedule a defense. ***Your thesis must be defended on or before April 22.*** If you are not prepared to defend by this date, you will receive an E grade. Incompletes will not be given except in extraordinary circumstances, and then only when the student has fully met the schedule prior to the event justifying a departure. Students who have rigorously met with their mentors and who have timely and satisfactorily submitted all reports of meetings with mentors will have priority in the scheduling of defenses.

Important notes leading up to and following the Thesis Defense:

- 1) The step-by-step list for students to follow as they prepare their final thesis is now available here: <https://www.uvu.edu/is/thesis.html> (scroll down to "Capstone II"). Links to the title page template, and the digital submission form are available here as well.
- 2) All completed hard copies of theses go to Mark Olson for binding and inclusion in the IS archive. Please make sure it has a title page and approval page attached to the final thesis draft.
- 3) Students are responsible for submitting their own electronic thesis for inclusion in the UVU digital archive. You can do so at this link:  
<https://www.uvu.edu/library/archives/institutionalrepository.html>

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### **Required or Recommended Reading Assignments**

This is a project/research based course, student does the research entirely, no required texts.

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### **General Description of the Subject Matter of Each Lecture or Discussion**

Capstone Two is entirely depending on the project of the student and has no lectures. Discussions revolve around the individual project.

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### ***Required Course Syllabus Statements***

#### **Generative AI**

You can use AI generate ideas, not to write the project.

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#### **Using Remote Testing Software**

This course does not use remote testing software.

This course uses remote testing software. Remote test-takers may choose their remote testing locations. Please note, however, that the testing software used for this may conduct a brief scan of remote test-takers' immediate surroundings, may require use of a webcam while taking an exam, may require the microphone be on while taking an exam, or may require other practices to confirm academic honesty. Test-takers therefore shall have no expectation of privacy in their test-taking location during, or immediately preceding, remote testing. If a student strongly objects to using test-taking software, the student should contact the instructor at the beginning of the semester to determine whether alternative testing arrangements are feasible. Alternatives are not guaranteed.

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### ***Required University Syllabus Statements***

#### **Accommodations/Students with Disabilities**

Students needing accommodations due to a permanent or temporary disability, pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions may contact UVU [Accessibility Services](#) at [accessibilityservices@uvu.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@uvu.edu) or 801-8638747.

Accessibility Services is located on the Orem Campus in BA 110.

Deaf/Hard of Hearing students requesting ASL interpreters or transcribers can contact Accessibility

Services to set up accommodations. Deaf/Hard of Hearing services can be contacted at [DHHservices@uvu.edu](mailto:DHHservices@uvu.edu)

DHH is located on the Orem Campus in BA 112.

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### **Academic Integrity**

At Utah Valley University, faculty and students operate in an atmosphere of mutual trust. Maintaining an atmosphere of academic integrity allows for free exchange of ideas and enables all members of the community to achieve their highest potential. Our goal is to foster an intellectual atmosphere that produces scholars of integrity and imaginative thought. In all academic work, the ideas and contributions of others must be appropriately acknowledged and UVU students are expected to produce their own original academic work.

Faculty and students share the responsibility of ensuring the honesty and fairness of the intellectual environment at UVU. Students have a responsibility to promote academic integrity at the university by not participating in or facilitating others' participation in any act of academic dishonesty. As members of the academic community, students must become familiar with their [rights and responsibilities](#). In each course, they are responsible for knowing the requirements and restrictions regarding research and writing, assessments, collaborative work, the use of study aids, the appropriateness of assistance, and other issues. Likewise, instructors are responsible to clearly state expectations and model best practices.

Further information on what constitutes academic dishonesty is detailed in [UVU Policy 541: Student Code of Conduct](#).

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### **Equity and Title IX**

Utah Valley University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age (40 and over), disability, veteran status, pregnancy, childbirth, or pregnancy-related conditions, citizenship, genetic information, or other basis protected by applicable law, including Title IX and 34 C.F.R. Part 106, in employment, treatment, admission, access to educational programs and activities, or other University benefits or services. Inquiries about nondiscrimination at UVU may be directed to the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights or UVU's Title IX Coordinator at 801-863-7999 – [TitleIX@uvu.edu](mailto:TitleIX@uvu.edu) – 800 W University Pkwy, Orem, 84058, Suite BA 203.

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### **Religious Accommodation**

UVU values and acknowledges the array of worldviews, faiths, and religions represented in our student body, and as such provides supportive accommodations for students. Religious belief or conscience broadly includes religious, non-religious, theistic, or non-theistic moral or ethical beliefs as well as participation in religious holidays, observances, or activities. Accommodations may include scheduling or due-date modifications or make-up assignments for missed class work.

To seek a religious accommodation, a student must provide written notice to the instructor and the Director of Accessibility Services at [accessibilityservices@uvu.edu](mailto:accessibilityservices@uvu.edu). If the accommodation relates to a scheduling conflict, the notice should include the date, time, and brief description of the difficulty posed by the conflict. Such requests should be made as soon as the student is aware of the prospective scheduling conflict.

While religious expression is welcome throughout campus, UVU also has a [specially dedicated space](#) for meditation, prayer, reflection, or other forms of religious expression.