Senior Capstone

Overview of project:
All Dance emphasis students are required to complete a Capstone. The emphasis of your topic should be in education, choreography, outreach, social issues or performance.
There are four components to this project.
1. A 10-page paper
2. A journal (15 pages minimum)
3. A performance or in class demonstration. The length needs to be discussed and approved by your primary advisor.
4. Overall growth.

Capstone Evaluation:
Performance or In-class demonstration: 40%
Research Paper: 30%
Journal: 20%
Overall Growth: 10%

Aim of project:
The aim of your capstone is to choose a topic you can research and investigate then connect to your choreography or demonstration. Your topic should be connected to the path you wish to pursue after you achieve your under graduate diploma. Please be clear in your intention as to how your researched subject matter (for example; inspiration you have drawn from educators in the field, social or economic issues, choreographers, genres of dance, professional performances or composers that have influenced your process) will be investigated and presented.
Steps:

- Submit Proposal to the THDA department. Please speak to your advisor about a deadline for this submission.
- Choose a Primary advisor and you will be assigned a secondary advisor. Your primary advisor should be Gay Nardone or Assaf Benchetrit.
- Begin your research and choreography.
- Schedule an appointment by the end of week 3 of fall semester to submit an outline of your research paper. Be prepared to discuss your choreography or in class demonstration ideas.
- Submit your research paper rough draft by the final week of fall semester to your primary and secondary advisor.
- Organize your journal during your process. A minimum of 15 entries are required.
- Actively work on the revision of your research paper during the course of the first semester.
- Schedule a showing of your choreography with dance faculty. Dates to be determined with your advisor.
- All technical support (light and sound), space reservation and rehearsal schedule needs to arranged by the student and cleared with your advisor, Mike Wood and Bob Henry. This may need to happen Spring Semester junior year.

Deadlines:

- Outline and choreography concert is due by Week 3 fall semester.
- Rough draft of your research paper is due by the last week of fall semester. Please schedule an appointment with your primary advisor to submit your work.
- Research paper due the week after your Capstone performance.
- If your performance takes place in the Dance Showcase, your paper is due that day.
- Performance dates are to be determined with your advisor and the THDA department.

Exit Interview:

- All students will meet with the entire dance faculty when they submit
their project for an exit interview. This discussion will include what you learned from your process, and what your plans for future are. It will also give you an opportunity to ask your professors any questions.

Criteria for Your Senior Capstone

Your Proposal should include:
- A definition for the focus of your Capstone.
- An outline that defines the direction your performance and research paper.
- Submit a request for rehearsal space, performance space, or venue. We encourage the venue to be on campus, but you may ask for an off-site opportunity in your proposal. The faculty reserves the right to deny an off-site request.
- A list of technical support and space that will be needed and used for your Capstone should be included. This should be cleared with Mike Wood and Bob Henry.

Your journal should include:
- A minimum of 15 1-page entries.
- Documentation of the beginning, middle and end of your process.
- Your own personal narrative about your research paper, your rehearsal process and your performance.
- Self evaluation throughout the process. What is working in your process and what isn’t?
- A final conclusion or reflection summarizing your experience and what you have learned from this process.

Paper Criteria:
- We encourage all students to work with the writing center on campus. http://www.unh.edu/writing/cwc/
- Papers should be 10 pages.
- Please include a formal cover page.
- MLA citation is preferred. In text citation is expected. Works Cited is
required.

- All papers should include an introduction, body and conclusion.
- Your introduction should include your thesis statement. Explain how you will investigate your thesis. Your thesis statement should articulate how your research paper will connect to your choreography project.
- The body of your paper should present your research information.
- The conclusion should be reflective and specifically prove how your research assisted you in the development of your process.
- All online research must be .org or .edu resources. A minimum of five sources are required.
- Please use primary sources, not Wikipedia.
- Both an electronic and hard copy should be submitted to your primary and secondary advisor.

**Performance Criteria:**

- Choreographed pieces should be in depth. Please discuss the length of your choreography with your advisors.
- Demonstrations, Presentations or Performances must occur on site. (The Newman Dance Studio, The Hennessy Theater or The Johnson Theater). Off site requests must be included in your proposal and approved by the dance faculty.
- All costumes, set design, and construction of materials must be provided by the student.