Capstones in COGS

Do I have to do one?

• Yes.
• Do I have to do it in COGS? No.
• Do I have to do more than one?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grad requirements</th>
<th>Capstone required?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAGES</td>
<td>YES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breadth</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major(s)/minor</td>
<td>NOT FOR COGS. BUT...YES for some other majors and minors</td>
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</table>

If you have another major or minor that requires a capstone in that department, and you do it in COGS...

If you have two majors/minors that require a capstone in that department....

What can it be? In COGS:

• The Capstone in Cognitive Science involves guided research, or service work with a research aspect, under the direction of a Cognitive Science faculty member who serves as Sponsor. The research can be empirical (e.g. data analysis, laboratory experiment, fieldwork, modeling and testing), theoretical, or library-based. The capstone work may be carried out within the Department of Cognitive Science or within an affiliated department or across departments and units, provided there is a Cognitive Science Sponsor for the capstone work. The capstone may be taken only one semester during the student’s academic career. A permit is required to take the course. The student’s Cognitive Science Sponsor must approve a written report and submit it to the Chair of the Department before credit can be granted. A public presentation is also required in a format to be determined as needed by the department faculty. Approved SAGES Capstone.

What can it be?

• In COGS it’s one-on-one work with faculty member, can be anything...except...
  — Can’t be paid.
  — Can’t get credit for work done prior to taking Capstone course (e.g. as part of COGS 399 Independent Study)
  — Can be an extension of prior paid or credited work. MUST DO NEW WORK.
• OTHER DEPARTMENTS OFFER COURSES
  — E.g., PSCL 397
  — You can take those courses...if you’ve got the prereqs

When?

• SAGES imagines...
  — After DEPT sem, both USEMS, SENIOR YEAR
• BUT: No prereqs for COGS 397.
• Think strategically
  — If doing one-on-one, more time = better project
    • Capstone = one semester, but can do 399 (independent study) semester before!
  — Med school? Need to do it by spring of JUNIOR year
  — Grad school? Need to do it by first semester senior, or if 399 first, spring of Junior.

What is a capstone?

• Annoying requirement?
• No! Precious opportunity for research!
• Why do research?
  — Practical
    • Necessity for some career paths (med school, grad school)
      — Not just the learning, the relationship (letters of rec)
    • Valuable for all
      — Not just the learning, the relationship (references)
  — Intellectual: Rewarding
How?

- Options
  - Enroll in a capstone course like PSCL 397.
  - Do the one-on-one thing (COGS 397).
- If you choose 1-on-1, it’s YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to make it happen.
- Research faculty
- Think about YOUR interests
- Choose potential sponsor
  - Contact faculty member with a TOPIC
- If she or he says yes, register for COGS 397
  - After that, details worked out between you

You can get funding!

- See SOURCE website
  - [http://www.case.edu/provost/source/](http://www.case.edu/provost/source/)
- COGS dept funding ($200 cap)

You can publish it!

- Undergrad research journals
  - Discussions
  - Indiana Undergraduate Journal of Cognitive Science
  - Penn Bioethics Journal
- Regular journals... maybe

Present!

Working with humans

- Human participants research? Must get certified before starting!
  - Online at: [http://ora.ra.cwr.edu/research/orc/crec/index.cfm](http://ora.ra.cwr.edu/research/orc/crec/index.cfm)
Capstone sampler...

• Priming vs. ego depletion: A study of the short-term effects of cooperative gameplay
• Story and its Effect on Flow in Video Games
• Gesture comprehension in individuals with and without Asperger's Syndrome
• Effects of Glioma and Similar Deep-Seated Brain Tumors on Cognitive Functioning.
• Perceptions of Mindedness and Moral Status - a cross-cultural study.