BACKGROUND

The JCU Integrative Core Curriculum includes the following requirements for the Major:

1. Competencies in written and oral expression;
2. A course that emphasizes writing skills in the discipline;
3. Courses and other requirements in the major that allow students to further cultivate skills in oral presentation and the use of technology to collect and share information; and
4. A major capstone experience, usually during the student’s junior or senior year, which represents the culmination of the student’s academic experience.
   a. The capstone may be satisfied through a course, created work or product, or some form of experiential learning.
   b. The capstone experience focuses on some feature of the student’s major area(s) of interest and requires the disciplined use of skills, methodology, and knowledge taught through the curriculum.
   c. Capstones must meet one or more of the following criteria:
      i.  Synthesize and apply disciplinary knowledge and skills.
      ii. Foster reflection on undergraduate learning and experience.
      iii. Demonstrate emerging professional competencies.
      iv.  Apply, analyze, and/or interpret research, data, or artistic expression.

The capstone also may be used to address other Core requirements for the Major, including reinforcing students’ skills in oral presentation, written expression, and information literacy (see #1–3 above).
APPLICATION FOR CAPSTONE APPROVAL

Each department or program with an undergraduate major must have an approved plan for meeting the 2015 Core requirement of the major capstone. If the program requires an actual capstone course (e.g., a senior seminar), the parameters of the course must be approved by the Integrative Core Committee; if the program permits different means for meeting this capstone requirement, with students selecting which type of capstone experience they will pursue, then the program guidelines for the capstone experience must be approved by the Integrative Core Committee.

Major program: ______________________________

Date of Application: __________________________

Submitted by (Name and Title): __________________

Specify the timing of this capstone experience (e.g., a student’s final semester, fall of senior year, sometime in junior or senior year following completion of a particular required course in the major sequence):

Capstone type:

- Course
- Created work or product
- Conference poster or presentation
- Internship or other experiential learning

Description of capstone type:

Focal point of capstone (e.g., a student’s independent research project, a thematic topic that changes over time, particular research skills or strategies, preparing a prior essay or research project for publication, the student’s creation of a cumulative portfolio of work in the major):

Tie to student’s major area(s) of interest:
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Summarize the Major program (and other curricular) skills, methodology, and knowledge required for the capstone:

Skills:

Methods:

Knowledge:

AT LEAST ONE of the following Core criteria must be met by the capstone experience. Select and explain all that apply.

- Synthesize and apply disciplinary knowledge and skills
- Foster reflection on undergraduate learning and experience
- Demonstrate emerging professional competencies
- Apply, analyze, and/or interpret research, data, or artistic expression

Explain how each of the selected criteria is met by this capstone experience:

List the program Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) for this Major and explain how the Capstone is designed to meet each of those Major program SLOs. (If the Capstone does not meet all of the Major program SLOs, specify what other Major program requirements ensure that the remaining SLOs are met.)

How will this Capstone be assessed? (Attach any pertinent rubrics or other assessment instruments.)

— Optional Section —

If this Capstone meets one or more additional Core requirements for the Major, select and explain all that apply.

- A course that emphasizes writing skills in the discipline
- A course or other requirement that fosters skills in oral presentation
- A course or other requirement that fosters skills in the use of technology to collect and share information
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Explain how each of these additional Core requirements is met by this capstone experience.