The International Relations Capstone

October 26, 2023
Capstone Objectives

1. Permit you to **reflect on, apply, and integrate** what you learned and experienced as an IR major.

2. Support an individual or group project that captures your interests and provides a tangible takeaway from your undergraduate major.

3. Provide a group experience in developing and presenting your work.
How to Complete the Capstone Requirement

1. Honors thesis: Completion of IR honors or an interdisciplinary honors program

2. Capstone paper: An original research paper building on prior work, completed during a one-quarter class in the senior year

3. Capstone project: A self-designed project completed over the course of the senior year

4. Policy practicum: A course in which students perform research on behalf of a partner organization (enrollment limited)
# Capstone Timelines

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<th>Autumn</th>
<th>Winter</th>
<th>Spring</th>
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| **Junior Year**| • Meet with Dr. Takeuchi to discuss options and ideas  
• Collect materials during overseas study, and/or internships | Apply for honors and/or policy practicum | Begin honors program (if applicable) |
| **Senior Year**| Honor thesis                        | Capstone paper (5 units)                    |                                             |
|                | Capstone project: design class (3 units) | Capstone project: individual work (2 units) |                                             |
|                | Policy Practicum (5 units)           |                                             |                                             |

* Exact timing of classes may change
Project Examples

• A podcast series (using soundbites, interviews, etc.)
• A mini-documentary
• An educational website or booklet (in collaboration with an NGO or a community group)
• A long-form feature article or commentary, a collection of op-eds or shorter essays
• An art exhibit, photo journalism, creative writing
• A mobile app, AI/machine-learning tools
What You Can Do Now

1. Meet with Dr. Takeuchi to discuss options and ideas.
   [https://calendly.com/atakeuch-q8y](https://calendly.com/atakeuch-q8y)

2. Think about how overseas study and/or internships can contribute to the capstone.

3. Take or plan courses to build upon in the capstone.

4. Consider applying for this winter’s policy practicum, IR 192: Accountability in International Development.

5. Keep an eye out for further communications!
Questions?