



## DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

### English MA Plan 2 with Capstone

#### Basic Requirements:

- 33 hours of coursework (11 courses). At least twelve of the hours (4 courses) you take toward your degree should be at the 600 level.
- You must complete all work toward your degree and capstone project within 10 years of the first course you take.
- Up to 9 hours of graduate work in English may be transferred from other institutions with the approval of the Director of Graduate Studies.
- To be a full-time student, you will need to take a course load of 9 hours per semester. While you are permitted to take up to 12 semester hours per term, you should consult with the Director of English Graduate Studies about doing so.
- You must maintain a 3.0 GPA in all courses taken at the graduate level. If in any semester your cumulative GPA falls below that 3.0 level, you will be placed on probation.
- See below for specifics regarding the capstone process.

#### Capstone Requirements:

A capstone project is the revision of a research essay or a technical or creative project that you have completed for a class you have already taken as an English MA student at UAH. In the semester before you graduate, you must seek out a faculty member to be your capstone project director. That capstone director should be the instructor for whom you originally wrote the essay or the technical or creative project you plan to revise. Unlike a thesis, a capstone project is done in addition to the coursework you are pursuing in your final semester as an English M.A. student. You must be enrolled for at least one class while completing the capstone project.

The capstone project must be completed in the final semester you anticipate being enrolled in the MA program. The capstone project consists of the expansion of a major project originally completed for one of your MA courses. A capstone tends to be in the range of 15-25 pages (sometimes a bit more or less) depending on its specific purpose. The project is typically framed toward a professional goal (academic conference presentation or academic journal publication, PhD or work application portfolio, creative writing publication, etc.). With your capstone director you will develop goals for the project and a completion plan. Students should follow department deadlines for the capstone project:

1. Selection of supervisor: December 1 (for Spring graduation); May 1 (for Fall graduation)



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2. Submission of Non-Thesis Capstone Proposal: January 31 (for Spring graduation); August 31 (for Fall graduation). The capstone proposal should be between 750-1000 words (2-3 pages). In it, you will describe what the original project was and how you plan to revise it for a specific audience (ex. an academic journal or conference, a literary journal, a company document, etc.). The capstone proposal should also explain why you have chosen to revise this particular piece of writing and how it fits into your personal/professional goals. Your advisor will read your proposal and may ask you to revise it if necessary. Once your advisor approves it, you may begin the revision.
3. Submission of completed Non-Thesis Capstone Project: **April 8** (for Spring graduation); **November 8** (for Fall graduation)
4. The Capstone project culminates with an interview about the project's process by the chair of the Capstone and a second, appointed department faculty member. The deadline for the Capstone project interview is **April 15** (for Spring Semester); **November 15** (for Fall graduation). For more information contact the Director of English Graduate Studies. **Please be advised** that it is not possible to schedule a capstone interview between mid-May and mid-August. You must complete the process in either the Spring or Fall semester.



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