

## THE HISTORY CAPSTONE-FAQ

### Who has to take it?

All History majors who began taking courses at UAB after July 2009 are required to take HY 497, The History Capstone.

### When do I take it?

The Capstone course has to be part of your last 30 hours of course work. Please note that the Capstone is NOT offered in the summer.

### How does it work?

The Capstone course includes two modules on Blackboard Learn, quantitative literacy and ethics and civic responsibility, as well as a major research project or presentation which is the culmination of your work as a History major. Your research is done under the supervision of a member of the History faculty. You should ask a professor in the field of study in which you are interested if he or she is willing to direct your capstone. In order to make sure that you are able to work with the instructor of your choice, you should plan ahead. Some semesters an instructor may not be available, and each instructor can only work with a limited number of projects.

### What will my project be?

You and the instructor will decide what sort of research project/presentation you will do. He or she will also monitor your progress during the semester. Please note that it does NOT have to be a formal research paper. The History department also houses the Media Studies program and interested students may get assistance from that program on how to prepare a visual presentation of their research.

### How do I register?

Once you have permission from the instructor who will direct your project, send that permission WITH your name and student I.D. (B00 number) to [CASHistory@uab.edu](mailto:CASHistory@uab.edu). Within 48 hours you should get an e-mail telling you that you can register for HY 497.

Some examples of research projects which History majors have done as capstones:

- "'I am Cain and Abel': The Cinema of Andrezej Wajda and the Practice of Preference Falsification"
- "Kami Animal Spirits of Shinto and Chinese Influence"
- "Resurrection in the Ancient World and Early Christianity"
- "Establishing Islam after the Death of Mohammad"
- "The Black Prince: Hero or Villain"
- "Syphilis in Early Modern England"
- "The Evolution of Early Kabuki Theater"
- "How Von Braun 'Sold' or Pitched the Space Projects"
- "Vergangenheitsbewältigung: Women and the Third Reich"
- "The Evolution of the English Navy"

### Still confused?

You can direct questions to [cjdavis@uab.edu](mailto:cjdavis@uab.edu) or call the History Department at 934-5634.