

WHAT IS THE CAPSTONE COURSE?

- A *required* project that UMMS med students complete over the 4 years in the medical program
- Students pick *any type* of topic (e.g.: research, humanities, medical education, etc) that
 - 1) Relates to medicine or healthcare
 - 2) Satisfies one of the core competencies (Physician as a... professional, scientist, communicator, clinical problem solver, patient & community advocate, person)
- The project is done in a "scholarly" format; i.e., you must write a paper with a literature review, methods section, results and conclusion

HOW WILL THE CAPSTONE PROJECT BE "GRADED"?

1. Scholarly paper: 5-7 pages plus figures, appendices and works cited
2. Reflective write-up
3. Capstone Project Presentation –poster or podium presentation, or exhibition

WHO'S WHO?

- Learning Community House Mentor: Surrogate capstone mentor during FOM1-FOM2
- Project Advisor: Official capstone advisor chosen in FOM2
- Capstone Leadership: Backbone of the capstone course; assigned to students according to LC houses; check in and assist students with projects throughout all four years

WHEN CAN I WORK ON MY CAPSTONE?

Students should work on their projects over the course of all four years in the medical program. Many students take advantage of the summer between FOM1 and FOM2, design an FCE to complete in CCE (3rd) year, and the required month-long Capstone block in AS (4th) year.

WHEN ARE THINGS DUE?

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| - FOM1 MS1 | - CCE MS3 |
| o Nov 30: Topic Selection | o Oct 31: Introduction Rough Draft |
| o April 30: Spring Progress Report | o April 30: Methods Rough Draft |
| - FOM2 MS2 | - AS MS4 |
| o Dec 15: Advisor Selection & Project Proposal | o Aug 31: Fall Progress Report |
| o May 31: Spring Progress Report | o January 31: Final Submission |
| | o March: Capstone Presentation |

OTHER IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW:

- *How do I **change my capstone topic**?* [Submit form on capstone website](#)
- *What's the deal with **group projects**?* Max of 3 students; all students must complete a distinct part of the project; students submit individual reports
- *What's a **legacy project**?* A project that has been initiated by a previous medical student, that is built up (not replicated) by up-coming students

WHERE DO I FIND MORE INFORMATION/RESOURCES?

- Capstone website: <https://umassmed.edu/oume/CSD/>