



College of
Agriculture
Food and
Natural
Resources

AGRIC 4972 Capstone Project in Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (AFNR)

COORDINATOR:

Assistant Dean of Academic Programs
Dickinson Student Achievement Center
2-64 Agriculture Building
College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources
Phone: (573) 882-8301

COURSE DESCRIPTION: A culminating learning experience focused on student's area of concentration that requires the application of knowledge and skills taught in the undergraduate curriculum. The capstone project comprises independent, original work culminating in a scholarly project, written document, and/or presentation.

CREDIT (1 – 3 credits)

- One to three credit hours based on the time commitment of one credit hour per 45 clock hours of learning experience.
- Culminating learning experience completed in the last 45 credit hours for students seeking a degree in General Agriculture.

PREREQUISITES AND REQUIREMENTS:

- Junior standing
- Consent of Faculty Mentor, Faculty Advisor and Assistant Dean of Academic Programs
- Approval of the capstone project proposal

EXAMPLE PROJECTS/LEARNING EXPERIENCES:

- Research with faculty that culminates in a paper or presentation
- Application of skills learned in primary and secondary concentration areas
- Service learning project

GENERAL GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS: The capstone project is to be the original work of the student. The final project should bring reflection and focus to the entire college learning experience and integrate facets of the student's areas of concentration as well as incorporate concepts from related disciplines. The capstone project should be specific to a particular need in the agriculture, food, fiber, and/or natural resources sectors and presented in a scholarly format.

PROCEDURES FOR COMPLETING THE CAPSTONE PROJECT:

1. Develop a project with guidance from a Faculty Mentor that focuses on the knowledge and skills learned in the your primary concentration area or a combination of the concentration areas
2. Submit a project proposal to your Faculty Advisor.
3. The project proposal should include the following:
 - a. Capstone project approval form.

- b. Background and rationale – need for the project.
 - c. Purpose and objectives.
 - d. Description of how the project will be an application of the skills and knowledge learned in the primary and/or secondary concentration areas.
 - e. Methods/procedures for completing the project.
 - f. Deliverables (what will be created) resulting from the project.
 - g. In cooperation with your Faculty Mentor, assign point values (or percentage points) to the deliverables and the final written report. A grade of satisfactory or unsatisfactory will be assigned based upon the assigned grades of the deliverables.
4. Upon approval of your Faculty Mentor and Faculty Advisor, submit the project proposal to the Assistant Dean of Academic Programs for approval.
 5. Upon approval of the Assistant Dean of Academic Programs, enroll in AGRIC 4972 for the approved number of credit hours.
 6. After completing the project, submit a written report for evaluation to your Faculty Mentor. The written report should include what you learned and any conclusions/implications/recommendations.
 7. To successfully complete the experience, the final report must be approved by your Faculty Mentor, Faculty Advisor, and the Assistant Dean of Academic Programs.

EVALUATION: A grade of satisfactory (S) or unsatisfactory (U) will be assigned based upon the approved deliverables and subsequent performance.

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT: If you have special needs as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and need assistance, please notify the Office of Disability Services, A048 Brady Commons, 882-4696 or your course instructor immediately. Reasonable efforts will be made to accommodate your special needs.

ACADEMIC HONESTY: Academic honesty is fundamental to the activities and principles of any university. All members of the academic community must be confident that each person's work has been responsibly and honorably acquired, developed, and presented. Any effort to gain advantage not given to all students is dishonest whether or not the gain is successful. The academic community regards academic dishonesty as an extremely serious matter, with serious consequences that range from probation to expulsion. When in doubt about plagiarism, paraphrasing, quoting, or collaboration, consult the course instructor.