

Graduate Certificate in Global Health of Women, Adolescents, and Child Health

Capstone Guidelines

The capstone is a 3 credit (equivalent of 90 hours) Independent Study project and is required for completion of the Certificate Program.

- I. Identify topic, project, and/or practice site according to the guidelines below. Submit a brief proposal of your capstone project for approval to the Global WACH Program Operations Specialist, Stephanie Edlund-Cho (secho@uw.edu). A brief email describing your project is sufficient for your proposal. In the proposal, include the name of your faculty advisor and the community or organization you plan to work in. We encourage you to use this project to make new contacts for future projects and/or employment opportunities. In addition, the capstone is intended to be a pragmatic way to efficiently help you gain research experience. Please keep in mind that the capstone is a separate project from a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation and you may not use any portion of your thesis or dissertation as your capstone project. However, if there are aspects of your project that you have not used in your thesis or dissertation, you may use these components for your capstone. Similarly, if you are working with an organization to develop your thesis or dissertation, you may use that same experience to develop a capstone, but it must be a distinctly different component.
- II. You must work with a UW faculty member as a capstone advisor, even if you are working with an organization not affiliated with the UW. The requirement is to provide you with any academic guidance that you might need. In addition, the advisor will evaluate your project before you present it at the designated capstone presentation seminar. When you approach a faculty member to be your advisor, please indicate what will be expected of them and provide them with the Faculty Advisor Information and Evaluation sheets, available on the Certificate Website. Typically, you will sign up for the required independent study credits under your UW faculty advisor's faculty code. The Certificate Program Manager can assist you in finding a mentor if necessary.
- III. Please carefully read the project guidelines below.

Project Ideas

Work with your Faculty Advisor and the Director of the Certificate Program to develop specific expectations for the project you decide to undertake.

Projects involving research include:

- Develop a study protocol, data collection tools, and/or standard operating procedures
- Conduct and summarize a data analysis project
- Set up a field research site

- Write article manuscript for publication in a peer-reviewed journal
- Conduct a literature review
- Conduct laboratory experiments

Projects not involving research include:

- Write a clinical case scenario (template) to be posted on the Graduate Certificate in Global Health of Women, Adolescents and Children website
- Conduct a program evaluation
- Write a grant application
- Write a policy memo analyzing a program (e.g. for an NGO to use in advocacy efforts)
- Write a paper exploring contextual aspects of serving women, adolescents, and children (e.g. program evaluation of an intervention that effects two or more of the populations)

Project Description and Aim(s)

Please include the following in your capstone presentation:

- **Significance of the problem:** Clearly state why the problem or issue is important. It is crucial that you incorporate aspects of the lifecycle approach.
- **Purpose:** Articulate how your project addresses the problem and why you are interested in this to study this problem. You should mention the time, place, population, name the on-site advisor (if applicable), and the UW faculty mentor you worked with.

Proposed Implementation Plan

- **Methods:** State your procedures, including the study design, analytical approach, statistical methods, population, site, and other methods as applicable. Please be as specific as possible.

Expected Project Outcomes or Work Products

- **Probable Outcomes:** Declare the skills you have obtained from having gone through your capstone experience.

Relationship of the Project to Your Current Academic Program

- State how the capstone experience has contributed to your academic degree program or career plan.

Human Subjects

- **Requirements:** All students working with human subjects are required to obtain submit and obtain approval to conduct human subjects research. If you are uncertain whether your capstone requires human subjects' approval, please consult the UW Human Subjects Division at hsdinfo@uw.edu or 206-543-0098.

Use of Photos in Your Capstone Presentation

- Please be sure to have full explicit permission for use of personal photos used in your capstone.