

Teagle Discussion on Capstone Experiences
Summary of Comments
5/13/08

What are the components of a capstone experience?

- 1) Opportunities to use content from the major and apply it
- 2) A focus on creating new knowledge
 - Project that synthesizes and creates new ideas
- 3) An integration of past knowledge, skills etc.
- 4) An experience that involves a deep understanding of your own discipline with an outcome of being able to explain the discipline and the “big” ideas to others outside the area.
- 5) Opportunities to reflect and articulate an understanding of one’s discipline and to reflect on and understand one’s location in that discipline
- 6) A focus on being able to see discipline content in new ways
- 7) Involves a tension between a narrow focus on new knowledge and broad educational goals
- 8) Forward-looking – provides connections between past learning and knowledge and future learning
- 9) Students can identify themselves as producers of knowledge
- 10) Provides students with the ability to see a bigger picture
- 11) Capstone- should it be connected to major?
 - No real place in our curriculum where students are forced to view issues/problems from different disciplines

Capstone experiences and Assessment

- 1) Departments can assess embedded student work in capstone experience
- 2) Assess whether we are being intentional in what we want to accomplish
- 3) Can assess students’ intentionality in their current/past learning.

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