Welcome to your capstone course in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences (IAS).

In this course, you will create your IAS Capstone Portfolio. IAS’s portfolio-based curriculum is designed to allow you to document and reflect on your work with respect to the IAS core learning objectives and to link your accomplishments to your personal and professional goals as a life-long learner. The IAS core learning objectives are: critical and creative thinking; interdisciplinary research and inquiry; collaboration and shared leadership; and writing and communication. The IAS website provides descriptions of these learning objectives: [http://www.uwb.edu/ias/portfolio/learningobjectives](http://www.uwb.edu/ias/portfolio/learningobjectives).

As you approach graduation, we ask you to create a Capstone Portfolio by showcasing and framing the significance of a limited number of artifacts from your full archive of work. This portfolio can include written work and essays; videos of presentations; poems and stories; pictures or film of art projects or posters; field reports and other documentation of experiential learning – any artifact related to your undergraduate education and your accomplishments as a student. You should feel free to include items produced outside the IAS curriculum. You also may showcase items that you consider flawed if they reveal something important about your development as a learner.

In order to explain the significance of the artifacts you choose to showcase, your Capstone Portfolio requires a framing statement of approximately 1250-1750 words that responds to this prompt:

*As you conclude your undergraduate education, what knowledge and abilities have you developed that you can carry forward? How does your portfolio provide evidence that you have the knowledge and abilities you claim?*

Please make your claims in the framing essay evidence-based and credible by including specific and substantial reference to the artifacts you have chosen to include in your portfolio. Your capstone course professor will provide additional details about how to assemble a Capstone Portfolio that will speak persuasively to your intended audience(s) about your accomplishments and abilities.

You are welcome to use the IAS learning objectives to structure the essay, but you don’t need to: your Capstone Portfolio is about *you*, not about IAS.

For more information about the IAS Capstone Portfolio and resources for portfolio creation, including sample Capstone Portfolios, see: [http://www.uwb.edu/ias/iasdegreeportfolio](http://www.uwb.edu/ias/iasdegreeportfolio).