Welcome to your capstone course in Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at the University of Washington Bothell. One dimension of the capstone experience is assembling a degree portfolio. IAS’s portfolio-based learning process is designed to allow you to document and reflect on your progress 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 thinking; interdisciplinary research; collaboration and shared leadership; and writing and presentation. Detailed descriptions of these learning objectives can be found on the IAS website: http://www.uwb.edu/ias/portfolio/learningobjectives

At this cumulative moment, we ask you to review the full archive of your completed work during your time in IAS. This archive should be made up of assignments with instructor feedback, whenever possible. It can include written work, videos of presentations, poems and stories, pictures or film of art projects or posters – anything for which you have written, electronic, or physical documentation. To assemble your degree portfolio, begin by selecting 5-10 items from that archive. Your selections should demonstrate change over time. They may include what you consider your best work, but you should feel free to showcase items that you consider flawed if they reveal something important about your development as a learner.

Using these materials as evidence, write an essay of about 2000 words in response to the following question: How has your experience in IAS affected you intellectually, socially, professionally, and personally? Please consider your development with respect to each of the four IAS learning objectives. You may also draw on previous work you have done on your portfolio in BIS 300, BIS 399, or elsewhere. The important thing is that this reflection should be evidence-based, making specific and detailed reference to the artifacts you have chosen to include in your portfolio.

For more information about the IAS degree portfolio and resources for portfolio creation and reflection, see: http://www.uwb.edu/ias/iasdegreeportfolio.

If you have any questions or suggestions about the IAS degree portfolio, please contact Colin Danby, the IAS Associate Director for Undergraduate Education: danby@u.washington.edu.