

NOVEMBER 1, 2024



COX COLLEGE OTD PROGRAM

THE CAPSTONE CURRENT



What do OTD students have to say about the 'Iterative Process' of Capstone?

"I have been very mindful to allow the literature to guide me allowing for the change in my capstone to take a natural progression." *Ashley Bailey*

"The morphing of my problem statement and topic has been very eye opening in the fact that there truly is nothing literature wise for many ideas that are considered emerging literature." *Blake Williams*

"Through this process, I have gained skills in how to pull information from literature and use it to scope in on a specific topic of interest and molding that interest and the findings into a project." *Britany Angleton*

"Reflecting on this capstone journey, my project has evolved significantly. Not in population or passion, but through deepened understanding." *Cryslan Daughtry*

"Reflecting on my capstone journey thus far there have been many bumps as my capstone has morphed quite a bit from the beginning with how literature has guided me, but I am loving where it is at and where it is going...trusting the process!" *Maddy Froeschle*

"My capstone has had a drastic change since we have started (this is a good thing)." *Dayjha Hill*

"Initially, I had a more narrow focus, but as I explored various articles related to my interest, I began to see the broader implications of my problem statement. This broader perspective has not only refined my purpose statement but has also deepened my commitment to the project." *Bailee Russell*

Image: OTD C1 - Escaping the Onsite Capstone Writers' Workshop Escape Room - September 2024

What's happening with the Capstone Currents?

- Students are concluding synthesis statements - 5 paragraph essay writing with the last being OT Role & Theoretical Framework
- Students have welcomed 'rowers' to their capstone raft with mentorship - (content expert) faculty capstone mentor meetings.
- Students are joining their essays into a compilation to represent their current understanding of the literature forming a project proposal.
- Students are preparing for defending their knowledge of the literature that has shaped their capstone. Meetings will occur Week 15.



Written By: Jamie Bergner, OTD, OTR/L, CHT, COMT

Capstone Coordinator Corner

Students pick their adventure, but it is helpful to have a few rowers in the raft that have navigated rivers before! Mentorship is a key component of the capstone project and experience. Students have extensive 1:1 mentorship to guide the *process* of capstone with the capstone coordinator, and are joined by content experts from a variety of backgrounds and locations: Cox College faculty and the surrounding community - as far reaching as several states away. While mentors ensure student success, the student is the leader of the capstone, pulling in resources as needed to keep their capstone “raft” moving down the river. Each project is different in the identified needed supports, however, every capstone student will have a content expert associated with their capstone experience site. Working with mentors is an incredible opportunity to build advanced skills to contribute to the advancement of the occupational therapy profession!



Rafting Reflections



Guest Editor:

Dayjha Hill, OTS

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Map of the Capstone River

Entry-level doctoral capstone

- Supported advanced skill development through an in-depth learning experience, linked to the curricular design of the program
- Refers to Capstone Project AND Capstone Experience

Capstone Project

- A comprehensive project that demonstrates a synthesis of knowledge in a student's area of concentration on the problem facing a population. The project concentrates on a problem an OT can address.

Capstone Experience

- 14 week learner-centered, mentored experience for an in-depth exposure with the population, aligned with the capstone project to address a problem.

Capstone Mentors

- Many! Faculty, Those that work at the Capstone Site, Content and Subject Matter Experts

Lead Rower Reflections: Passion is the Oar that Powers the Raft!

Written By: Dayjha Hill, OTS

Current Problem the Capstone Project is addressing:

Individuals who have experienced psychological abuse demonstrate occupational deprivation for social participation and have altered coping strategies - which results in decreased participation in valued social relationships.

Connecting your capstone with a passion keeps the capstone project intriguing and engaging, even through challenges. It has helped keep me determined to find a solution to the problem based on the literature. As future occupational therapists, we chose this career to help others in need, this experience helps keep the spark and provides a start to working with your passion.

