

## Primary Research Capstone Project

### Description:

This capstone project blends academic study with original research. Typically, for primary research, the BIS student works under the guidance and tutelage of a researching professor.

### Capstone Project Requirements:

1. The purpose of your capstone project is to demonstrate what you have learned through primary research of an issue or phenomenon linked to your three academic disciplines
2. You must have a specific purpose for your research and describe the research methodology used by your primary professor
3. The nature of your phenomenon and proposed methodology must be described in your *Capstone Proposal* submitted at the conclusion of BIS 3800. Your Capstone Project committee will approve or make suggestions for your work at that time.
4. Your final project must contain a *literature review* demonstrating best research addressing your phenomenon from all three academic disciplines melded into one literature review.
5. Your final project must contain *findings* and *recommendations* sections.

### The Process:

1. You will be expected to complete the following work **before you start** your research experience:
  - a. Conceptualize and design a research study under the direction of a researching professor
  - b. Complete Weber's *IRB process* if you will be working with human participants, you will have to complete the IRB paperwork for legal coverage. This process takes time, so start early. For more information, visit: <https://www.weber.edu/IRB/>
  - c. In conjunction with your primary professor, detail the *nature of the problem, issue, or phenomenon* to be investigated.
  - d. *Review the appropriate literature* related to your problem, issue, or phenomenon under investigation.
  - e. Under the direction of your research professor, thoroughly describe the *research methodology* that you will use.
2. As you **implement your project and begin research** you will:
  - a. Follow the *research methodology* you described in your project proposal.
  - b. Collect raw data revealed by your methodology.
  - c. Work with your research professor to determine how your raw data will be reduced/analyzed and reported.

3. For your **Capstone Defense**, prepare your Primary Research Report containing the following **subheadings**:
  - a. A *Nature of the Problem* section where you thoroughly describe the problem, issue, or phenomenon under investigation (3-4 pages).
  - b. A *Review of Literature* section that contains current research and/or theory about the problem, issue, or phenomenon under investigation (15-20 pages).
  - c. A *Methodology* section where you describe the methods and procedures used in your research (3-4 pages).
  - d. A *Findings* section where you report data and their analysis (2-3 pages).
  - e. A *Recommendations* section where you make further recommendations for future research or study (2-3 pages).
  - f. The *References* cited in your Nature of the Problem and Literature Review (2-3 pages or more).
  - g. *Appendices* containing your IRB (if applicable) and other documentation related to your Primary Research Report.