**Final Written Project:**

**Extended Critical Essay**

The Capstone Project is designed to provide the student an opportunity to synthesize knowledge gained from course study throughout the student’s academic career. For this project you will choose a topic related to your area(s) of study and complete a Formal Written Report, a PowerPoint Presentation and an Oral Report based on you study and research.

For this extended critical essay, students are expected to:

 Plan and pursue a research project with intellectual initiative and insight

 Formulate a precise thesis statement that represents a strong point of view or argument

 Gather and interpret material from appropriate sources

 Structure a reasoned argument based on the material gathered

 Present their extended essay in a format appropriate to the subject, acknowledging sources in proper APA format

 Demonstrate analytical and evaluative skills appropriate to the subject

The written project needs to be completed prior to the Power Point and Oral presentations. The Power Point and Oral presentations are based on the Written Essay.

 ***WRITTEN FORMAL REPORT REQUIREMENTS***

 The final paper should be 15 – 20 pages in length, not including title page, table of contents, and bibliography. The body of the report should be a minimum of 4000 words.

 APA basic format is required including 1” margins, 12-point Times Roman type, double-spaced and standard rules for manuscript preparation.

 At least six references are required and cited according to APA guidelines including proper in-text citations and a corresponding Reference List.

 The paper will demonstrate the student’s ability to use clear and concise writing at a college level. This includes proper English usage, grammar spelling and diction.

 The paper requires third person POV for entire manuscript.

 Paper should include Cover Sheet with Title, Table of Contents, Abstract, Introduction, Body with Conclusion, Reference Page and appropriate visuals, graphs, tables if appropriate.

 The paper should encompass the course materials learned throughout the student’s bachelor-level academic career. It should address a topic that affects or is related to the student’s areas of study. Ideally, it would explore a convergence of the areas you have studied. Be sure to choose a topic which you can argue, or which you can take a firm stand. Although research is a part of this project it is not simply an informational paper, it should represent your view of the subject.

 (Optional) Speak with someone at the company regarding key issues that you will discuss in your paper, get the inside perspective.