

# **CAPSTONE ASSIGNMENT**

WGST 484, Fall 2022

## **WHAT IS THIS PROJECT?**

For your capstone project, you will work individually or in groups to create an educational brief related to Women's and Gender Studies. Put simply, this educational brief should provide an organization with an overview of the topic you have chosen, as well as suggestions for ways that the group can use this information to initiate change. The final product can be a printed packet, or you can opt to create a digital resource.

1. First you will identify the topic and trajectory for your inquiry. This topic must relate to the documents at the WV and Regional History Center (particularly the Feminist Activist Collection)
  - a. Miriam Cady has put together a lib-guide with themes related to our course and descriptions of relevant collections and documents.
    - i. <https://libguides.wvu.edu/c.php?g=1255783>
2. Once you identify your topic, you will select the audience for your work.
  - a. The audience that you choose will directly affect what you produce and how you shape your project.
  - b. You could consider audiences such as:
    - i. City Council
    - ii. High School Teachers
    - iii. Civic Organizations (Kiwanis Club, Rotary Club, etc.)
    - iv. Church Group
    - v. Parent-Teacher Group
3. Then you will identify what is "at-stake" in you project.
  - a. Why does this work matter?
  - b. Why should your audience care?
  - c. What do you hope for them to gain?
  - d. Etc.

## **WHAT ARE THE STEPS OF THIS PROJECT?**

### **1. Research Proposal and Goals (50 points)**

Submitted on eCampus by 11:59 PM on Sunday September 18<sup>th</sup>

- a. Each person, whether working individually or as a group, will compose a brief proposal explaining what you will do in this project. Your proposal should address the three questions above: what is the topic? Who is the audience? What is at stake? Additionally,

- you might address questions such as: What change would you like to see? What is the problem that this project might remedy?
- b. Proposals should be roughly one double-spaced page
  - c. Be sure to include the names of all co-creators if you are working in a group
  - d. You must upload your file in a document format (.doc, .docx, .rtf, etc.) not as an image file (.pdf, .tiff, etc.)

## 2. **Purpose Statement and Key Terms (50 points)**

Submitted on eCampus by 11:59 PM on Sunday October 2<sup>nd</sup>

- a. Each group/individual will write a clear, brief purpose statement.
- b. Additionally, each group/individual will compile a list of at least 4-5 key terms with definitions.

## 3. **Literature Review (100 points)**

Submitted on eCampus by 11:59 PM on Sunday October 23<sup>rd</sup>

- a. Each group/individual will produce a literature review. The literature review must provide an overview of the key scholarship related to your project. It should give your reader a clear sense of what others have written about this topic and the conversations that you are contributing to.
- b. Each literature review should be at least 2 double-spaced pages and discuss no fewer than 5 scholarly secondary sources if working alone or 10 if working in a group.
- c. Your sources must be properly cited in Chicago style
  - i. Everything that isn't common knowledge needs to be cited.
- d. The literature review must also include a bibliography
  - i. NB: A Works Cited page lists everything that you directly cited in the text, whereas a bibliography includes sources you cited as well as other relevant material that you consulted

## 4. **Documents and Interpretation (100 points)**

Submitted on eCampus by 11:59 PM on Sunday November 13<sup>th</sup>

- a. Each person will describe and analyze at least two primary source documents to be included with the educational brief.
  - i. Include a copy of the document with your submission
- b. The description should provide context for understanding the document as well as a detailed explanation of how it relates to your project. What questions does the document raise? Does it challenge your conclusions or other documents? Why have you selected this specific document?
- c. Imagine that you were handed this document, what information would you need to know?

- d. Be sure to include the full citation information for the documents that you discuss

## **WHAT IS THE FINAL PRODUCT?**

### **1. Oral Presentation (150 points)**

Last week of the course

- a. You will present your research during the last week of the regular term (exact date and time TBD). More detail about the presentation will be provided later in the term.

### **2. Final Project (400 points)**

**Submitted on eCampus by Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM**

- a. You will compile the information that you have already produced and compose introductory and concluding remarks
  - i. Your intro and conclusion must clearly articulate what your identified audience could do with the information.
- b. Your project will need to be put together and formatted in an engaging and aesthetically pleasing way either as a printed packet or as an online resource.
  - i. Be sure to cite any images you choose to include
- c. Your final project must include the following:  
(Your project may include additional sections like suggestions for further research or topics for discussion, suggested activities, etc.)
  - i. Title
  - ii. Names of Authors
  - iii. Purpose Statement
  - iv. Key Terms and Definitions
  - v. Introduction
  - vi. Literature Review with in-text citations
  - vii. Document Analysis (with copies of documents)
  - viii. Conclusion
  - ix. A Chicago Style Bibliography

**Submit the final project on eCampus no later than Wednesday December 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 PM**