

MS-LEPSL Capstone Tips and Tricks

What is the Capstone Course?

- In the Capstone course, students organize an electronic portfolio (LiveBinders), a LinkedIn profile, or website (usually Weebly or Google Sites) to display exemplary work submitted in the various classes you have already taken. It is not all the work you have done. **Note: all electronic portfolios have password protection and other security options to keep information secure.*
- It consists of Assignments showcasing what you have learned along your journey in LEPSL. It may be a paper or memo you submitted that stands out or a presentation you created that is a hallmark of your learning.
- The capstone is like all other courses in that you will have a professor guiding you throughout the course. However, there will be deliverables due every other week, which is a bit different than a typical course.

What can you do to prepare?

- Be sure to save all of your work and professor feedback so you can refine your work for your portfolio. The courses close in Blackboard shortly after the end of the course - **you will not be able to access them once they close**. Save your work as you go.
 - If you feel you have exemplary work on any given assignment, keep that work in mind for your Capstone when you reach that point. Make your corrections as soon as you can with the feedback you received from that professor. Put it aside to use when you build your Capstone in your last semester. This tactic allows you to create a base of exemplary work that might apply to your Capstone. You ultimately decide to use it or not.

Advice from Capstone Professors:

When choosing what papers you will upload, you likely initially saved the documents by the class name and that module. So, while you can decide how you organize your work, as a suggestion, you can choose to do the following:

Create a new folder on your computers, possibly “Papers to upload to e-portfolio.” In that folder, take the chosen paper and

rename it to a more straightforward title to identify. For example, your original paper may have been titled "lepsl_510_module_2.docx." However, before uploading it, you may want to save that paper as "Communication Memo to Chief." This would allow those visiting your website to identify your exemplary work quickly.

What happens when you are in the course?

- Your professor will guide you through the modules with different prompts that discuss the themes called Primary Learning Objectives (PLOs).
- The PLOs are themes that are overarching themes relevant to many law enforcement and public safety topics.
 - Not one of the PLOs should surprise you by the time you reach Capstone, as LEPSL gets you ready and prepared for such themes during your journey in our classes.
- The general themes of the PLOs are:
 - Ethical and Effective Leadership
 - Developing Knowledge Skills for the 21st Century
 - Institutional Assessment and Change
 - Critically Assessing Modern Criminal Justice Issues