

**RARITAN VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ACADEMIC COURSE OUTLINE**

**ENGL-296H
ENGLISH HONORS RESEARCH CAPSTONE**

I. Basic Course Information

A. Course Number and Title: English Honors Research Capstone ENGL-296H

B. New or Modified Course: Modified

C. Date of Proposal: Semester: Fall Year: 2022

D. Effective Term: Fall 2023

E. Sponsoring Department: English for the Honors College

F. Semester Credit Hours: 3

G. Weekly Contact Hours: Lecture: 0
 Laboratory: 0
 Out of class student work per week:
 Independent Research: 135 hours

H. ☒ Prerequisite (s): Student must be enrolled in his or her last Honors College academic year before graduation.

☐ Corequisite (s):

☐ Prerequisite (s) and Corequisite (s):

I. Additional Fees: none

J. Name and E-Mail Address of Department Chair and Divisional Dean at time of approval:

Ronald Tyson Ronald.Tyson@raritanval.edu

Patrice Marks Patrice.Marks@raritanval.edu

II. Catalog Description

Prerequisites: Student must be enrolled in his or her last Honors College academic year before graduation.

This course is intended to guide second-year Honors College students through the stages of conducting a semester-long research project in English. In this course, students will develop a timeline as the basis for carrying out independent study and research. Students will become acquainted with contemporary research topics, theoretical frameworks for literary or composition studies, and documentation styles, as well as the processes of planning, conducting original research, drafting, revising, and editing a research project, and creating oral presentations.

III. Statement of Course Need

- A. Research on the value of intensive undergraduate research experiences abounds, and requiring enrollment in this research capstone will provide RVCC Honors College students with: a strong student-faculty collaboration and scholarship; an original research to the discipline; an understanding of intensive research in preparation for classes in the major or for more intensive graduate school research; and a high profile project that will aid in transfer applications.

Class will consist of five major components: library instruction, research and guidance with faculty member, group discussions on topics and progress, the final written (or artistic) project, and a formal presentation.

- B. This course has no lab component.
- C. This course is not designed for transfer, yet dependent on transfer institution may transfer as an English program elective.

IV. Place of Course in College Curriculum

- A. Free Elective
- B. This course does not meet a General Education requirement.
- C. This course meets a program requirement for the Honors College.
- D. To see course transferability: a) for New Jersey schools, go to the NJ Transfer website, www.njtransfer.org; b) for all other colleges and universities, go to the individual websites.

V. Outline of Course Content

The Study will consist of the following major components:

1. Information literacy instruction to support research or creative project in English
2. Advanced English topic exploration
3. Background research and discussion of the capstone topic with capstone English faculty advisor to create a timeline of completion
4. Develop methods to understand and analyze the English research or creative project
5. Research and guidance with capstone English faculty advisor via weekly consultations to discuss results, assess progress and adjust timeline as needed.
6. The final English capstone project
7. A formal capstone presentation (Capstone Day).

VI. A. Course Learning Outcomes:

At the completion of the course, students will be able to:

1. Logically and persuasively state and support orally and in writing their findings from the research or creative project. (GE 1, *)
2. Evaluate relevance and authority of information. (GE IL)
3. Create and revise drafts and/or review artistic process to address capstone objectives and employ standard appropriate editing practices for the specified discipline. (GE 1)
4. Use discipline-specific information sources and/or databases to better understand the research topic and find existing research in the field. (GE IL)
5. Complete a research project or develop an artistic product that incorporates newly acquired and prior information and is delivered in a medium appropriate to the discipline and intended audience. (GE 1, IL)
6. Cite sources, compile a bibliography, and make consistent and correct use of a citation style appropriate to the discipline (GE IL)
7. Explain and present all aspects of their English capstone project.

(*Embedded critical thinking)

B. Assessment Instruments

1. research process
2. final capstone product
3. capstone project presentation

VII. Grade Determinants

1. research process
2. completion of agreed upon timeline deadlines
3. revisions of drafts and/or review of artistic process

4. final capstone product oral presentation

Given the goals and outcomes described above, the primary formats, modes, and methods for teaching and learning that may be used in the course:

1. lecture/discussion
2. small-groupwork
3. computer-assisted instruction
4. guest speakers and lecturers
5. student oral presentations
6. student-faculty collaboration
7. independent study and research

VIII. Texts and Materials

Any texts and materials will be dependent upon individual capstone project requirements.

(Please Note: The course outline is intended only as a guide to course content and resources. Do not purchase textbooks based on this outline. The RVCC Bookstore is the sole resource for the most up-to-date information about textbooks.)

IX. Resources

- A. databases
- B. archives
- C. museums/performances
- D. subject matter experts