

From: [Kathie Carpenter](#)
To: [Ian F. McNeely](#)
Cc: [Kathie Carpenter](#)
Subject: INTL assessment plan
Date: Monday, January 23, 2017 8:47:08 PM

Dear Ian,

I'm sorry to say that our formal assessment plan proposal will be a day or two late, because I didn't have time to write it up today. Basically what we are doing is we have approved Galen Martin, our Undergraduate Studies Director, to teach a 1-credit senior capstone class in spring term on a pilot basis (compensated at the going rate). The capstone will be focused on working with students to write, critique, rewrite and complete a research paper, either a senior honors thesis if they are writing one, a paper for another class they are taking (either a research paper if the class requires it, or a research/writing enhancement of the final product if the other class doesn't require an actual research paper). This is a capstone class that we have been planning to develop anyway to make sure that our students are able to do the kind of analysis and writing that we want, so it seems worthwhile to do it a bit earlier on a limited, pilot basis for the assessment plan. So Galen will teach the class, work on the students' writing with them, assess the final product and he and I will report back in June. The learning outcomes that this will address are:

Use analytical intellectual tools to examine global issues in the primary thematic areas of the department: international development, culture and globalization, gender and development, environment, global health and development, and crosscultural communication and understanding.

Employ methods of interdisciplinary social science research: use library databases to find relevant literature, evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of academic arguments, and use evidence to support arguments.

Convey complex information and ideas in English that are clear, robust, carefully edited, well organized, and stylistically engaging and accessible.

Thanks,
Kathie