

## CAPSTONE PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

COMM 388 – FDM Capstone can be taken to fulfill your Capstone requirement for all three sequences within the FDM major. Note: students enrolled in the major before Fall 2017 can also fulfill the requirement via an internship OR COMM 357 OR COMM 338.

To be enrolled in and successfully complete COMM 388 – FDM Capstone, you have to do a project that meets the following criteria in terms of content *and* form:

- 1) It has to be a project that you can complete by yourself, in one semester, w/ minimal or no help. It's possible to have collaborators, but unless your collaborators are also enrolled in the course, it needs to be something that is not dependent on a full production team;
- 2) it has to be focused and end w/ a single, polished, presentable product;
- 3) it has to require significant, higher quality work, demonstrating your mastery of a particular skill (e.g. film analysis, interactive design, cinematography, etc);
- 4) it has to be completed before May 1 and presented publicly at the FDM Capstone presentation, as well as prepared for external distribution/publication (e.g. film festivals, paper competitions, web publication, etc).
- 5) it has to involve external subjects, talent, advisors, etc. to some degree (i.e. can't just do something with and about your college friends and classmates).
- 6) it cannot be a project that you could do within an already existing class; e.g. it cannot be a traditional narrative short during a semester that COMM 338 (Narrative Production) is offered.

The kind of projects that generally satisfy the above requirements include, but are not limited to:

- the completion of a feature-length script or series pilot;
- a post-production/editing, motion-graphics or animation-centric project;
- a cinematographer's reel or camera-centric project;
- a short documentary (10 minutes or less);
- an interactive story, game or web/digital centric project;
- an in- depth film/TV research project and presentation;
- the production of an original music video (rights cleared/artist involved);
- OR expansion and completion of a project begun in a previous class.

A good way to think about it is that you will be creating a signature piece for your reel or portfolio and going for depth/quality over breadth.

Whatever you choose to do, you have to complete a COMM 388 form before registration; i.e. you have to begin the semester of your capstone with a pre-determined, focused, and approved project .