

Practice Capstone Option – Advising Notes

The *Practice Capstone Option* requires completion of two three-credit courses that provide an applied experience in a professional context, in most cases working with a client organization on an assigned project. This is a Fall-Spring sequence. The first semester course ([Practice 1](#)) is selected from a suite of preparatory courses (Project Cycle, Policy Analysis, methods-based, studio, or seminar courses). The second semester course ([Practice 2](#)) is selected from a list of implementation choices.

To undertake the Practice Capstone, a student should seek advisement from the Practice Coordinator during the registration period. The student prepares the **Capstone Declaration Form**, click [here](#). It is signed by the Practice Coordinator and the student will then submit the form online.

While there are several paths to fulfill the two-course sequence, most students will join **Practice A. - Primary Capstone**. They will start with the Practice 1 course in either Project Cycle Management or in Policy Analysis. In the second semester they take the Practice 2 course: Project Implementation or Policy Implementation.

For Practice 1, students register depending on their interest in either **project management** or **policy analysis**. Both Project Cycle Management and Policy Analysis provide a broad background in these sectors. A list of projects is circulated at the start of the semester that will include the client, a brief project description, the required specific knowledge and skill criteria, and the appropriate classes to be taken for the two-course sequence. During the Fall semester, students meet with the client and in many cases initiate planning and work on projects and deliverables that are completed in the second semester.

Students submit their CV and rank their top three project preferences. We will match students who meet the criteria with their preferred project or with an alternative one. Upon placement in a specific project, a student will be able to substitute a different Practice course in line with their intended project.

This is the ordinary course sequence for the two-semester **Practice A. - Primary Capstone**:

First Semester

Practice 1: Project Cycle Management (NINT 6963)

/or/

Practice 1: Critiquing, Negotiating & Advocating Policy in International Affairs (NINT 6964)

Second Semester

Practice 2: Project Implementation or Policy Implementation (NINT 6961)

[In the second semester, some may register for a technical skill course.]

Other Practice Capstone Option Sequences

There are other Practice pathway sequences that can be undertaken for Practice 1 and Practice 2. Some students will specialize in a technical skill such as GIS or Monitoring and Evaluation. Students can register for the semester one and semester two options of those courses. It is also possible to take Practice 1: Project Cycle Management and GIS I or M&E I as Practice 2. Other combinations are possible with advisement.

Below is the menu of **Practice Options, Practice A-B-C-D-E** available across two semesters:

Practice A. – Primary Capstone

Practice 1	Practice 2
Project Cycle Management	Project Implementation
Policy Analysis and Advocacy	Policy Implementation

Practice B. - GIS Capstone

Practice 1	Practice 2
Project Cycle Management (only in Fall)	GIS I
GIS I	GIS II

Practice C. - Monitoring and Evaluation Capstone

Practice 1	Practice 2
Project Cycle Management (only in Fall)	Monitoring and Evaluation I
Monitoring and Evaluation I (only in Spring)	Monitoring and Evaluation II (Fall 2021)
Monitoring and Evaluation I (Spring semester)	International Field Program - Ethiopia (NINT 6000)

Practice D. - Media Capstone

Practice 1	Practice 2
Project Cycle Management (only in Fall)	Media Design (NMDS 5008)
Project Cycle Management (only in Fall)	Documentary Practice and Emerging Media (NMDS 5540)

Practice E. - Self-Designed Capstone

Practice 1	Practice 2
Subject content class, e.g. Development Econ, Politics of Humanitarianism, etc.	Studio
Project Cycle Management	Studio: Havana Studio (NINT 6370)
Project Cycle Management	Studio: Humanitarian Aid Practices (NINT 5460)
Studio	International Field Program (NINT 6000)

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