Completion of the Literature Major requires a capstone, which demonstrates a student’s ability to produce advanced work in the discipline.

**Requirements**: To participate in the Literature Capstone, students must have completed a minimum of 90 semester credit hours, including lower division Literature courses. There are three ways students can fulfill the capstone requirement in the Literature Major:

- **Option A**: Successful completion of a capstone class (LIT 4390)
- **Option B**: Successful completion of an independent capstone project
- **Option C**: Successful completion of a Senior Honors project

**Option A: Capstone Class**

The capstone class (LIT 4390) provides students with a structure within which to reflect upon their work in the Literature Major. The class consists of four elements: (1) a short essay, in which the student reflects upon courses taken at the University and how those courses shaped the student as a reader and writer; (2) close readings of a literary text and readings in in selected works of criticism; (3) revision of a paper or creative project the student produced for a previous class; and (4) a presentation of the revised paper or project—including the process of revision—to the class. **Registration**: Students will register for LIT 4390 during their enrollment period.

**Option B: Independent Capstone Project**

Students conduct independent study under the direction of a supervising professor and second reader secured by the student. The supervising professor should ordinarily be a full-time member of the Literature and Language faculty. Possible projects include student teaching, a scholarly essay, or a creative writing project. The project should exhibit independent literary research and argument, be documented where necessary (with lesson plans, for example, production notes, a set of poems, stories, or scripts), and include a critical essay explaining the project’s context and important ideas. Students negotiate the terms of the project with their supervising professor; past projects have consisted of work between 3000 and 5000 words. It is recommended that students begin planning for this option as early as possible and meet with prospective faculty supervisors at least one semester before undertaking the project. **Registration**: Students will complete the *Independent Study Application and Registration* form and obtain signatures of the supervising professor and second reader. Students will bring the form to the Academic Advising Suite (JO 4.508) and will be notified of their enrollment in LIT 4V71 for 3 semester credit hours via their UT Dallas email.

**Option C: Senior Honors**

Because the requirements for a senior honors project overlap and exceed the requirements for the capstone, students who complete the requirements for major honors in Literature will be exempt from the capstone requirement. Major Honors students must follow all guidelines included on the Major Honors info sheet. **Registration**: Students will need to complete the *Application and Registration for Senior Honors Thesis or Project Form* and obtain signatures of the supervising professor and second reader. Students will bring the form to the Academic Advising Suite (JO 4.508) and will be notified of their enrollment in LIT 4V99 for 3 semester credit hours via their UTD email.