2018 Capstone Project Guidelines

An important component of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) AuD Program is the research-oriented capstone project. Every AuD student is expected to complete a capstone project by the eighth semester and present it in May of the fourth year. Students work independently, with the assistance of a faculty mentor, to design and complete an original research project. The purpose of the project is to help students understand the research process. Practitioners need the ability to evaluate and integrate research findings into best practices for the profession.

Each capstone project is presented in the student's fourth year in May on the same Friday as the OU commencement ceremony. Students are expected to prepare and present a formal 30-minute slide presentation to the student's peers, faculty, and interested professionals from the community.

Possible projects include, but are not limited to:

1. Original research, including an approved systematic review or meta-analysis;
2. New analysis of data that faculty have collected producing original outcomes;
3. New analysis of data in other existing databases producing original outcomes;
4. Program development and evaluation

IRB Training:
Students are required to complete the **CITI Basic Course** to meet the Institutional Review Board (IRB) training requirement. The CITI Basic Course is a web-based course in the protection of human research subjects. The course contains several modules; and each module includes a brief quiz. The entire course takes about 4-6 hours to complete. The program allows login multiple times to complete all modules. Students may complete the CITI Basic Course any time during the first year; however, the target date is no later than the summer session of year one. The course is good for three years; after that, a CITI REFRESHER course may be required.

OUHSC information about CITI registration is available at:
https://compliance.ouhsc.edu/hrpp/OUHSC/Education/EducationRequirements/CITITraining.aspx
When registering for the CITI program, please provide your **OUHSC email address and choose the affiliate "University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center" when creating an account**. Students should print training documentation and the certificate of completion for their records and provide a copy to the AuD program coordinator. CITI registration is available at:
https://about.citiprogram.org/en/homepage/

After IRB training is complete, students select a clinically-based research project that leads to the production of original outcomes data and culminates in the formal presentation of their research. *Students shall identify a mentor and, in consultation with that mentor, define a suitable research topic and plan for completion no later than the first semester of the second year. This plan should include a timeline for completion of each phase of the project. *If the student's faculty mentor is off-site, students should also identify a full-time faculty member to serve as a co-mentor. In the second semester of the third year, each student is enrolled in CSD 8490 (Special Studies: Grand Rounds) under the direction of the faculty mentor(s) to begin data collection and preparation for the presentation.

Approved November 2011; Updated March 18, 2015
Updated & Approved by the Audiology Section on August 28, 2015
Last Updated July 24, 2018 (OU no longer requires "in-house" IRB training)

Checklist:

☐	Complete CITI Basic Course	Recommended in summer semester, Year 1
☐	Identify a mentor	No later than fall semester (deadline: Dec. 1), Year 2
☐	Define a suitable research topic	No later than summer semester, Year 2
☐	Turn in signed form to academic advisor	No later than the fall semester, Year 3
☐	Complete data collection	No later than spring semester, Year 3
☐	Analyze data and prepare presentation	No later than spring semester, Year 3
☐	Present capstone project (30-min ppt)	May (OU Commencement Friday), Year 4

Topic title: _____

Mentor: _____   Date: _____

I understand these requirements for satisfactory completion of the Au.D. capstone project.

      Student's Name: (please print) _____

      Student's Signature: _____   Date: _____

I have approved the plan for this project and will serve as the faculty mentor to ensure its satisfactory completion.

      Mentor's Signature: _____   Date: _____

      Mentor's Signature: _____   Date: _____