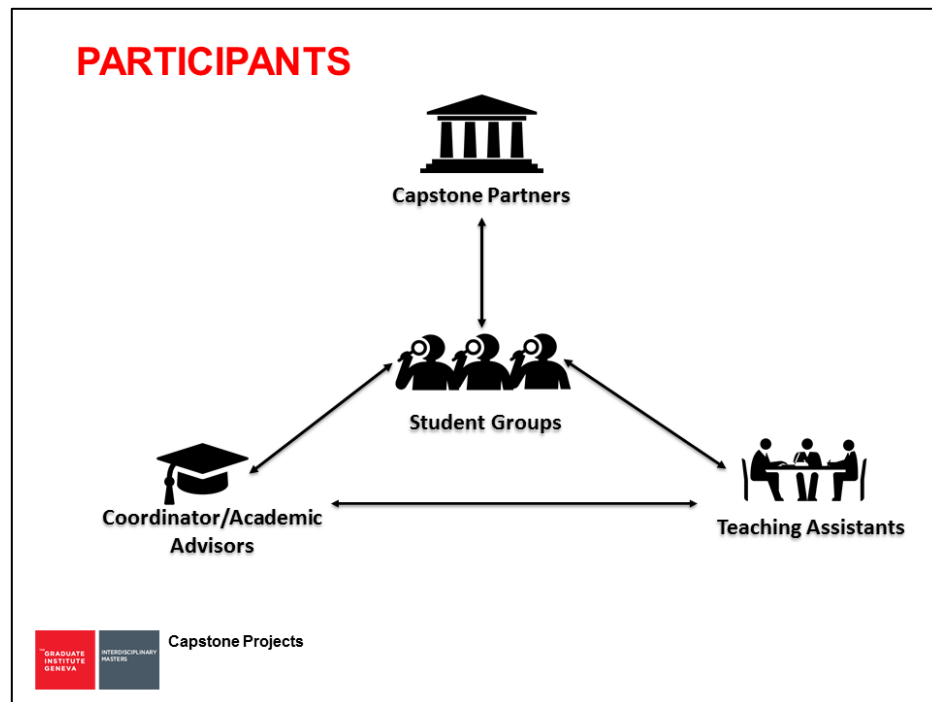


CAPSTONE APPLIED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Overview

- Capstones are applied research projects conducted in small groups (3-4) with collaboration from partners across International Geneva and beyond, including but not limited to international organizations, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. Projects provide an opportunity to students to draw on their academic knowledge, theory and methods whilst gaining direct research experience working on real-world research projects and global challenges which may be useful to future career choices.



Learning objectives

- Gain practical experience and expertise in the skills and processes required to conduct academically informed applied research;
- Strengthen their capacities in using different research methods and analyses, formulating research-based policy recommendations and effective communication;
- Develop key competencies in transferable skills: teamwork and peer dynamics; project management and planning; internal and external communications;
- Apply academic skills to the implementation of actual projects that are identified by and bring value to partner organizations.

Supervision

- Supervisors and TAs provide group supervision throughout the process;
- Students are invited to present their work to TAs and supervisors at regular intervals to benefit from feedback and peer-to-peer learning;
- Partners provide guidance to the students. If necessary, the relation between partner and students is mediated and facilitated by the academic advisor and TA.

Evaluation

- **Final report (60%):** Based on content (research partner's expectations, descriptive quality, inclusion of theoretical perspectives, analytical depth, comprehensive methodology, strength of conclusion/recommendations) and form (executive summary, clear introduction and structure, illustrations and fluidity of wording and language);
- **Research process (20%):** This part of the evaluation includes elements of the research process that may vary across courses as well as students' performance. They may include one of the following: i) evaluation of the inception report; ii) the quality of team work, professionalism with respect to deadlines, work ethics; iii) or other elements of the research processes.
- **Presentation of results (20%):** Modality of communication of results may differ across Capstone courses and groups to best fit the pedagogy and nature of the project (poster, presentation, video, partner evaluation, etc.). Evaluation reflects the quality, clarity, and analytic depth of the presentation output, and the strength of conclusion and recommendations.



INTERDISCIPLINARY MASTER PROGRAMMES

GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT STUDIES
graduateinstitute.ch/interdisciplinary-programmes

Timeline

	<i>Spring semester</i>
February-March	Meeting and planning with supervisor, TA, allocation of projects
March-April	Meeting with partner organization and onset of work
April-May	Group work
June, week 1/2	Submission of inception reports outlining the research framework
	<i>Students are encouraged to continue research during the summer</i>
	<i>Fall semester</i>
October	Update on research
November	Submission of the First Draft
December week 1	Submission of the Final Report
December	Partner, student and supervisor concluding event