

# Spring 2026 ITLS-4960-IO1 XL Syllabus

## ITLS 4960 SENIOR CAPSTONE PROJECT

**Instructor:** Ramy Shaaban ([ramy.shaaban@usu.edu](mailto:ramy.shaaban@usu.edu) (mailto:ramy.shaaban@usu.edu))

This class aims to give students the opportunity to work on their own creative projects with the guidance of the ITLS throughout the semester. This is not a typical class setting, meaning, there are no formal weekly meetings during the semester. But there will be 4 checkpoints with the instructor to make sure students are making progress. This class has pass/fail grades.

### **The senior capstone project consists of the following:**

- 1- Formal proposal
- 2- Reflection paper
- 3- Final submission of the project.

### **Project initiation**

The student will choose a creative project idea that wanted to be done during the class. The student and the instructor will meet via Zoom to discuss the applicability of the idea and to go over a proposed plan of action (student must have a timeline planned to finish this project by the end of the semester).

### **Possible types of creative projects:**

- 1- Website design (can be an online portfolio)
- 2- Product design.
- 3- UX/UI design
- 4- Marketing Plan
- 5- Mobile app design
- 6- Other proposed solutions that fall within the scope of the program.

### **Formal Proposal**

The student will craft a proposal that highlights the idea of the project in detail. The proposal will include the following:

### **Background**

**Introduction:** A brief introduction of the project: the problem, the client you worked with (if any), etc.

**Team:** was this a team project? who else did you work with?

**Contributions:** what were your specific contributions to the end result?

**Timeline:** how long did this project take, from start to finish?

### **Task/problem**

What problem did you set out to tackle?

### **Concept / Solution**

What was your proposed solution? This includes how you approached the problem, your strategy, etc.

### **Process**

What steps did you take to reach the final product?

**Brainstorming:** What were your methods of brainstorming concepts, ideas, and visual designs? Sketching, sticky notes, group ideations, whiteboard sessions, etc.

**Research:** What kind of research did you conduct to immerse yourself in the project? Surveys, contextual research, competitor research, gathering of statistics/data, etc.

**Target Audience:** Who is your target audience? How did you determine this?

Concept Evolution: What were other concepts or ideas you explored before coming to the final concept? Why did you choose the concept that you did?

**Visual Design:** What were the other design directions you explored? Show sketches, wireframes, and preliminary visual designs.

**Development:** How was the final product implemented? Was the website developed/ coded? Was the packaging implemented or was a prototype made? etc.

### **Outcome**

What was the end result?

### **Reflection**

After completing the project, the student will write a non-formal reflection about what they experienced during the process of the project development. Students will answer the following questions:

What did you learn from completing this project?

What were the challenges you had to overcome?

### **Final Project Submission**

The submission will depend on the type of project. For example, if the project is a website, a link to this website would be enough. If the project is a product design, images of the product and/or a video of a walkthrough of the project should be enough. Students can discuss how they want to submit their projects at the end of the semester.

### **Class Checkpoints**

Periodically, the student will provide the instructor with a brief description of the status of the project. The following are the dates, the student should reach out to the instructor with the current status of the project.

**January 15th** (Student is expected to choose the idea for the capstone project)

**February 27th** (Student is expected to complete the proposal by this date)

**March 19th** (Student is expected to give the instructor a hint about their progress)

**April 28th** (Deadline for submitting the proposal, the reflection, and the final project)

## **Resources**

The instructor will periodically send useful resources to help students succeed in this class. Students are encouraged to reach out to the instructor with any questions they have either through email ([ramy.shaaban@usu.edu](mailto:ramy.shaaban@usu.edu) (<mailto:ramy.shaaban@usu.edu>)) or via Zoom by arranging an appointment. *The more you have continuous communication with the instructor, the better your project will be at the end.*