Course Description:
Capstone for the Art Major is the completion and formal presentation of a series of works that demonstrates a student’s skill and intellect within the visual arts. The student submits a written project proposal within the parameters of completed art courses at Westminster. Once the faculty review and approve the proposal, recommendations are made to the student as to the scope of production: scale and quantity, media, and exhibition responsibilities. Themes must be within the skill level and experience of the student. Research into the topic and media is required. Once the project is confirmed, the faculty will assign one or both faculty members to guide and mentor the student through the primary creative phase of the project. The student and faculty will set up weekly or bi-weekly meetings to review progress throughout the capstone semester. Group critiques will provide additional feedback on the project.

Course Objectives:
• to develop independent research skills related to art-making beyond the classroom
• hone writing skills related to and in support of the artwork
• develop professional portfolio materials to support post-graduate opportunities
• pursue independent goals in the art studio
• continue to develop visual and content aspects of artwork

Course Outcomes:
Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:
• apply visual and analytical thinking to the world around them
• have a greater understanding of and clarity in their voice as an artist
• apply their creative, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills to further art making and/or professional goals after graduation.

Methodology:
Class time will provide ongoing dialogue with the instructor in relation to the project as well as opportunities for brainstorming, problem-solving, and project assistance. Progress will be expected at each meeting in terms of quality of work and quantity. At each meeting, the student should have both new work started and work that is nearly or fully completed. In addition to the ongoing progress meetings with one or both art professors, the course will also include an end-of-the-semester portfolio review.

Projects:
The student will create a series related artworks. Quantity, topic and media will be agreed upon by student and Art Faculty.
**Evaluation and Grading Criteria:**
You will be evaluated in this course by the quality of work in terms of crafting the material and conceptual depth and clarity. Effort and enthusiasm towards your ongoing project is an important factor in your overall evaluation. Your overall project is evaluated according to the design/formal qualities, creativity and development of the concept, craft and presentation and the effort put towards planning out the project and idea generation.

**Grades: Total of 250 points**
A set of progress grades worth 20 points each: Total 100 points
Sept. 21, Oct. 5, 12, Nov 9, 15.

Mid term critique grade. 50 points, Oct. 19  Both faculty will review your progress, concept and craft.

Final Presentation: 50 points  Dec 14 Thursday, 11:30-2
Formal typed Artist Statement: 50 points due at the final

Exhibit is tentatively scheduled for:
Install: Feb 12-16
Opens: Feb 19  Closes Mar 23.
De-install: Mar. 24-25

**Attendance:**
Attendance does not merit points towards your final grade, however, poor attendance can detract points from your final grade. Good attendance illustrates your engagement with the course and increases your ability to progress smoothly with your project. You should come to each meeting and/or critique prepared and with new work, ideas, research and questions. A maximum of 2 absences (excused or unexcused) will be allowed without consequence. More than 2 absences will reduce your final grade by 1 letter grade per additional absence. If you have missed 6 or more classes, you will automatically fail the course.

**Accessibility Statement:**
Westminster College actively strives for the full inclusion of all our students. Students with disabilities who require access solutions for environmental or curricular barriers should contact Faith Craig, Director of Disability Resources, located in 209 Thompson-Clark Hall. phone – 724-946-7192  e-mail – craigfa@westminster.edu