Capstone Project Guidelines for IP and Sharing of Information

These guidelines must be signed and acknowledged by Industry Partners, the instructor of record, and the student(s) prior to starting work on the Computer Science Capstone Senior Design Project.

Capstone Senior Design Projects are required in order to obtain an undergraduate degree from the Department of Computer Science at the University of Dayton (**UD**). Often an Industry Partner is involved in the Capstone Project by providing resources and guidance to a student team. The following guidelines are helpful for information sharing and intellectual property considerations:

Four Types of Capstone Projects:

1. **Standard Department of Computer Science UD-Based Project**
Resources to work on the Capstone Project are provided by the University of Dayton, including substantial use of facilities and equipment and/or funding.

2. **Other UD Department-Funded Project**
Funding or other resources to work on the Capstone Project are provided by a unit other than the Department of Computer Science. The facilities and equipment are provided by the University of Dayton.

3. **Industry-Funded, UD-Based Project**
Funding or other resources and guidance to work on the Capstone Project are provided by an Industry Partner, while facilities, equipment, and/or other funds are provided by the University of Dayton.

4. **Industry-Funded, Industry-Based Project**
Resources to work on the Capstone Project are provided entirely by an Industry Partner and may include funds, use of facilities and equipment, and guidance. No University of Dayton facilities, funds, or resources are used.

Proprietary information under NDA:

An Industry Partner may share its proprietary information with students and/or faculty to make the Capstone Project a better experience and learning case. Students may be asked to individually sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (**NDA**) with an Industry Partner in order to receive such information. A student signing an NDA should be aware of the obligations not to disclose any proprietary information provided under the NDA and the impact of those obligations on any Capstone Project report or otherwise. Such NDAs

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directly involve the student and the Industry Partner and the University of Dayton is not a party. NDAs must allow students to make presentations of their projects to the university community and must not place restrictions on students that are unreasonable.

Intellectual Property (IP)

At the University of Dayton, students typically own IP they create unless the students are:

a. Employed by the University of Dayton or the University of Dayton Research Institute (UDRI)
b. Making substantial use of UD resources including facilities and equipment, or
c. Using UD-administered funds including contracts, grants, and gifts.

In these instances, UD may own the rights to the IP. The UD Intellectual Property Policy can be found at:
https://udayton.edu/policies/research/intellectual-property-policypage.php

For Industry-funded, Industry-based Projects, Industry Partners may request other arrangements with the students with respect to IP ownership. NDAs between students and Industry Partners might include statements regarding ownership of IP. Students and Industry Partners are advised to avoid creating conflicting obligations regarding assignment of IP. If the student and Industry Partner desire to have student IP transferred to the Industry Partner, there must be a clear written assignment of the IP to the Industry Partner *prior* to the initiation of the Capstone Project. If a student does not wish to participate in the project that requires assignment of IP, that student may choose to work on a different project. This decision should be made prior to initiation of any Capstone Project.

Funding and Remuneration

Funding for the Capstone Project, should generally be provided by the industry partner, unless an alternate arrangement is reached with the Department of Computer Science. Students should not use their own funds or resources for the Capstone Project.

In order to receive academic credit for the Capstone course, students cannot receive remuneration, gifts, or other consideration in connection with the Capstone Project from the Industry Partner or from any UD department external to the student's major.

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Publication

Except for proprietary information provided to UD students, employees, or faculty under an NDA, students shall be free to present, publish and communicate information about their projects without restrictions.

Open Source

Subject to the terms of an NDA or UD contracts or grants in which students may participate, students may create open source and publicly open end products and open results. If the student has no obligations to disclose or assign to UD under the Intellectual Property Policy, then the student is free to do whatever they want with their work product in Capstone (subject to any obligations they may have to the Industry Partner).

Subject Matter of Capstone Project

The subject matter of the student's Capstone Project shall not violate any applicable federal, state, or local law and shall not violate any UD policy or regulation. Projects cannot include the use of guns,alcohol, gambling, marijuana or other illegal drugs that would compromise a student's standing according to the University of Dayton Standards and Code of Conduct :(https://udayton.edu/studev/_resources/standards-and-code.pdf).

Course Syllabus

These Guidelines cannot be used in lieu of a course syllabus, but shall be referenced in the course syllabus for each Capstone Project.

More Information

For more information on the Department of Computer Science Capstone Program at the University of Dayton please reach out via email to cps@udayton.edu. This is a shared mailbox monitored by:

Dr. Michael Poor (Computer Science Department chairperson)

Dr. Nicholas Stiffler (Assistant Professor; Instructor of Record)

Paola Ortiz Vazquez (Director of Student Advising and Department Initiatives)

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Student:

I, (Printed Name)_____ , hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood the terms and conditions provided in the Capstone Project Guidelines and I agree to all of the terms.

_____ _____

Student Signature   Date

Instructor:

I, (Instructor's Name)_____ , hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood the terms and conditions provided in the Capstone Project Guidelines and I agree to all of the terms.

_____ _____

Instructor of Record Signature   Date

Approved By:

_____ _____

Department Chairperson Signature   Date

Sponsor: (either Industry Partner or UD Department funding the Capstone Project)

I, hereby acknowledge that I have read and understood the terms and conditions provided in theCapstone Project Guidelines and I agree to all of the terms.

_____

(Name of Industry Partner or UD Department funding the Capstone Project)

By:

_____ _____

Representative Printed Name   Date

_____

Representative Title

_____

Representative Signature

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