New Course Request

Indiana University

Check Appropriate Boxes: Undergraduate credit [x] Graduate credit [ ] Professional credit [ ]

1. School/Division Liberal Arts
2. Academic Subject Code MSAT

3. Course Number 27444 (must be cleared with University Enrollment Services)
4. Instructor 

5. Course Title Motorsports Studies Capstone Seminar
   Recommended Abbreviation (Optional) 
   (Limited to 22 Characters including spaces)
   
6. First time this course is to be offered (Semester/Year): Fall 2008 (2008)

7. Credit Hours: Fixed at 3 cr. or Variable from ______ to ______

8. Is this course to be graded S-F (only)? Yes [x] No 

9. Is variable title approval being requested? Yes [x] No 

10. Course description (not to exceed 50 words) for Bulletin publication: The Motorsports Studies Capstone Seminar is an intensive individual project that draws on the student's chosen area of emphasis in the Motorsports Studies Curriculum: Motorsports Studies, Communication and Public Relations, Business, Finance and Management, and Tourism and Event Management. The project will involve an in-depth research project, and internship with a motorsports organization or both.

11. Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at ______ or Variable from ______ to ______

12. Non-Lecture Contact Hours: Fixed at ______ or Variable from ______ to ______

13. Estimated enrollment: 5/yr. of which ______ percent are expected to be graduate students.

14. Frequency of scheduling: 1 yr. Will this course be required for majors? Yes [x] No 

15. Justification for new course: Required for the Motorsports Studies Certificate

16. Are the necessary reading materials currently available in the appropriate library? Yes [x] No 

17. Please append a complete outline of the proposed course, and indicate instructor (if known), textbooks, and other materials.

18. If this course overlaps with existing courses, please explain with which courses it overlaps and whether this overlap is necessary, desirable, or unimportant.

19. A copy of every new course proposal must be submitted to departments, schools, or divisions in which there may be overlap of the new course with existing courses or areas of strong concern, with instructions that they send comments directly to the originating Curriculum Committee. Please append a list of departments, schools, or divisions thus consulted.

Submitted by: [Signature] Date 11-11-08
Department Chairman/Division Director

Approved by: [Signature] Date 12/18/09
Dean

University Enrollment Services

Dean of Graduate School (when required) Date

Chancellor/Vice-President Date

University Enrollment Services Date

After School/Division approval, forward the last copy (without attachments) to University Enrollment Services for initial processing, and the remaining four copies and attachments to the Campus Chancellor or Vice-President.

UPS 724
University Enrollment Services—White; Chancellor/Vice-President—Blue; School/Division—Yellow; Department/Division—Pink; University Enrollment Services Advance—White
DRAFT

Motorsports Studies Research Capstone
Z444

Instructor: Robert White
Office: CA 503L
Phone: 274-7520
E-Mail: spike@iupui.edu
Office Hours: To be announced

The Motorsports Studies Capstone Seminar is designed to help students synthesize and demonstrate what they have learned from the Motorsports Studies curriculum. The capstone provides opportunities for students to integrate what they have learned in their motorsports classes, and in their major, and prepare for their future careers.

IUPUI has 6 Principles of Undergraduate Learning:

1. Core Communication and Quantitative Skills
2. Critical Thinking
3. Integration and Application of Knowledge.
4. Intellectual Depth, Breadth, and Adaptiveness.
5. Understanding Society and Culture.
6. Values and Ethics.

Although all six principles will be reflected in the expectations for this course, students should pay particular attention to Principle 3, Integration and Application of Knowledge. The Motorsports Studies Capstone is an intensive individual project that draws the student’s chosen area of emphasis in the Motorsports Studies curriculum. For some students, the capstone may involve an internship with a motorsports organization. Other students may be best served by an intensive, in-depth, research project. Like most capstone courses, the project will be designed to demonstrate a student’s ability to use the concepts, methods, and research skills they have learned throughout their undergraduate education, including motorsports studies.

The most productive capstone projects are well-defined, clearly structured, coordinated with a faculty supervisor, and focused on a topic that interests the student. Taking time to develop a good project with clear methods and goals on an interesting subject will ensure the completion of the project and make the experience much more rewarding and enjoyable. It is never too soon to start planning your capstone project.

All capstone projects must be consistent with one of the four areas of emphasis that are available to students pursuing the certificate: Motorsports Studies; Communication and Public Relations; Business, Finance, and Management; and, Tourism and Event Management. These themes are not mutually exclusive and students are encouraged to complement the in-depth nature of their projects with intellectual breadth. For the purposes of the capstone, the emphases provide a generalized structure and/or approach to the start of the project.

Students may choose one of two options for their capstone project. This choice should be informed
by the student’s career plans. For those interested in pursuing a career in the motorsports industry, an internship with a motorsports organization is advised. For students interested in motorsports as an intellectual subject of study, the in-depth research project is probably a more appropriate choice for the capstone project. Each option will involve the same amount of time and commitment (i.e., 150 hours), but different projects will require knowledge of motorsports and interests in quite different ways. These options should be discussed with the Director of Motorsports Studies and independently with a faculty member that the student might ask to be their Faculty Supervisor. This course is for those students choosing the Motorsports Studies Research Capstone Option.

**Intensive Motorsports Studies Research Project**

The Motorsports Studies Research Project is a major work (e.g., a 25-35 page research paper) on a subject of that interests the student (such, the changing nature of the NASCAR fan base). The project must address a research question and show that the student has a fundamental knowledge of motorsports and that s/he is capable of completing an involved research project. Students identify a topic, conduct a substantial literature search, and complete the project over the course of a semester. This research project must be approved by the Director of Motorsports Studies and the Motorsports Studies Curriculum Committee.

**The Capstone Project Proposal**

The project will begin with a proposal. This is a paper that clearly and succinctly outlines the methods, goals, products, and broader social and applied implications of the capstone project. Most proposals are about 10 double-spaced pages in length (typically this page count does not include the title page and bibliography). It is assumed that a Capstone Project Proposal will be well-written, clear, and structured according to the following elements:

1. **Title Page:** Provide a clear and interesting title. Include the student’s name and the Faculty Supervisor’s name.

2. **Project Description/Introduction:** Describe project plans in detail.
   
   i. Identify and describe where the project will occur, including (if relevant) the name, activities, and mission of any non-university organization involved.
   
   ii. Describe the specific goals of the project (indicate the specific research questions to be addressed and the reasons for undertaking the project and/or discuss what concrete benefits the project will contribute to a particular organization).
   
   iii. Theoretical and/or applied significance of the project: articulate the importance of this project in broader contexts and its central questions in various theoretical or applied perspectives within motorsports studies.

3. **Literature Review:** Discuss the literature relevant to the topic and construct a background for scholarly literature and the relationship of this project

4. **Methods:** Detailed description of materials to be used and methods to be employed
during the execution of the project.

i. Be very clear and detailed about EXACTLY what methods will be used and type of information or data that will be examined. For instance, it is not enough to indicate that you’ll conduct oral interviews: say how many interviews, with what research subjects, how long the interviews will be conducted, the range of questions that will be asked, and so on. Be as clear as possible.

ii. A specific plan of action must be included, with approximate dates by which various tasks will be completed, plus estimates of the number of hours to be devoted to each. Be as specific as possible. The Motorsports Curriculum Committee will require clarity for project plans that are not clearly described or do not seem to require the amount of time you have allotted for each task.

iii. Special resources needed to carry out the project, if any, and how these will be provided. This may include admission to specific events, a digital recorder, transcription machine, funds to support a survey, and so forth.

iv. A schedule of meetings with the Faculty Supervisor. There must be regular meetings between the student and the Faculty Supervisor while the project is being conducted (typically, these will be bi-weekly or every three weeks or so).

v. Provide a brief discussion of possible human subjects issues connected to the project (if applicable), and, if necessary, documented approval of IUPUI Institutional Review Board (or application for approval). Do not delay requests for IRB approval for any project that will involve human subjects research within the parameters of IRB guidelines. The Motorsports Studies Director and/or your Faculty Supervisor will explain this in more detail, but in general any research that involves people and will be published or distributed in some public form will almost certainly require that you secure the approval of the IRB.

5. **Results:** List learning objectives and professional competencies that are expected to result from the capstone project. Students should describe what they hope the project will demonstrate about their research skills and interests. This should include a description of specific products that will result (e.g., research paper, museum exhibit, etc.).

6. **Literature Cited:** A bibliography of relevant motorsports studies resources is required.

7. **Signatures:** Student, Faculty Supervisor.

The Capstone Project Proposal is due to the Director of Motorsports Studies six weeks prior to the start of the semester in which the project will be undertaken (November 15; July 15; April 15).

The Motorsports Studies Curriculum Committee will review and, when appropriate, approve the
proposal. The Curriculum Committee does not assign grades; it simply accepts or declines proposals and projects. The student's Motorsports Faculty Supervisor assigns the final grade. If the Curriculum Committee requires revisions prior to accepting either the proposal or final project, these are usually conducted with the direction of the student's Faculty Supervisor and the Director of Motorsports Studies.

A three-credit hour project should be approximately 150 hours (all three-credit classes are supposed to occupy 150 hours of student time, including time in class and studying for the course). Over the course of a 15-week semester, this is approximately 10 hours a week. Projects should be completed by the end of the semester in which the student is enrolled in the Capstone Project. Capstone Projects may, by prior arrangement, extend beyond a single semester, particularly if done during Summer I or II.

Time spent on the project must be documented in a detailed timeline log that identifies each task. Students should be very clear about what was entailed in the task and not include ambiguous entries that cover vast swaths of time, for example, an entry of "Research, 45 hours" will require significant explanation. Indicate the day(s) on each task, detail exactly what was entailed in that task, and note the exact times for the tasks. This is very easy if a notebook log is kept from the very outset, but impossible if attempting to reconstruct from memory at semester's end. The timeline log should be included as an appendix to the final capstone project report. It is strongly recommended that students save all documents in multiple formats and on more than one computer. Be prepared for computers to crash, and so forth.

**Capstone Portfolio**

Upon completion of the project, students will submit a final project portfolio which will include the following:

1. *Title Page* with an abstract (one paragraph) of the entire project;

2. A copy of the original *Project Proposal*;

3. *Project Paper* of at least 25 pages following a format similar to the capstone project proposal. The final paper *must* include a reflective discussion of the experience (the project paper can vary depending on the project but typically must involve some self-reflection on the project experience, methodology, utility of the project and so on; the reflective aspects of the project should be discussed with the Faculty Supervisor);

4. *Literature Cited*;

5. *Documentary Materials* illustrating the project including visuals, if possible;

6. *Log* of activities kept by the student, which should include the date, length of time on activities and description of activities; and,

**Grades**
The Faculty Supervisor submits the grade based upon evaluation of the completed project as documented in the project portfolio or research paper. In cases of internships, the Faculty Supervisor will also seek input from individual(s) associated with the relevant motorsports organization. The Faculty Supervisor will also typically arrives at the final grade in consultation with the Motorsports Studies Curriculum Committee and/or Director of Motorsports Studies.

Grade Scale

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<th>Grade</th>
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<tr>
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<td>90-92</td>
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<td>D-</td>
<td>70-71</td>
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Student Responsibilities

Capstone Projects are an independent learning experience. The primary responsibility for initiating, developing, and carrying out the project belongs to the student. The student is responsible for discussing potential projects with their major advisor and the Director of Motorsports Studies. When appropriate, the Director of Motorsports Studies forward the capstone project proposal to the Motorsports Studies Curriculum Committee. It is assumed that students will identify and contact the faculty member who will be the Faculty Supervisor, contact organizations or individuals who will be involved in the project, write the project proposal, and communicate regularly with both the Faculty Supervisor and the Director of Motorsports Studies. If, in the course of the project, problems arise, then it is the student’s responsibility to alert her/his major advisor, Faculty Supervisor, and the Director of Motorsports Studies to any problems and/or substantive changes in the project, keeping a log of project activities, and preparing the final portfolio for assessment.