

# Capstone Project for students following the 'Honours and Talent' programme

Semester 6 / 2024-2025

Students wishing to successfully complete the 'Honours and Talent' program (HTP) will be evaluated based on the following three assignments:

- HTP Project Proposal
- HTP Capstone Project (Final Report)
- HTP Reflection Essay

Each assignment is graded on a Pass or Fail basis. Students are offered a resit opportunity for the HTP Project Proposal and the HTP Reflection Essay. However, there is no resit opportunity for the HTP Capstone Project. To successfully complete the HTP program, a student must receive a Pass in all three components.

Below, you will find descriptions and assessment criteria for each HTP assignment.

# HTP Project Proposal

## Group Assignment

In addition to the standard Project Proposal, student groups participating in the HTP program will submit an HTP Project Proposal. This proposal should clearly outline the learning objectives established at the beginning of the Capstone trajectory. It must detail the tasks each team member will undertake during the additional 168 hours required, linking these tasks to individual and/or group learning goals. The proposal should emphasize the project's originality and critical depth, including how interdisciplinary approaches will be integrated. It should also specify any additional data the group plans to collect, and elaborate on the mixed-methods approaches or advanced methods they intend to use. Overall, the HTP Project Proposal should convincingly demonstrate the students' commitment to an innovative, comprehensive, and intellectually rigorous project, justifying the additional hours dedicated to the HTP Capstone project.

## Deadlines

Wednesday, March 05, 2025 (17.00)	<b>Progress check</b> <i>Submission of PDF file via Canvas</i>
Wednesday, March 19, 2025 (17.00)	<b>Final submission</b> <i>Submission of PDF file via Canvas</i>

## Assessment Criteria

- Ability to clearly define and document the individual tasks for which students are responsible during the additional 168 hours required for the project, effectively linking these tasks to their individual and/or group learning outcomes.
- Ability to incorporate interdisciplinary approaches into the Capstone project.
- Ability to develop and execute a detailed plan for collecting additional data and to apply mixed-methods approaches or advanced quantitative/qualitative methods relevant to their project goals.
- Ability to produce a project proposal that convincingly demonstrates the project's innovation, comprehensiveness, and intellectual rigor, effectively justifying the additional hours dedicated to the Capstone project.
- Word limit: 2,000 words.

# HTP Capstone Project

## Group Assignment

For students participating in the HTP program, the Final Report assignment will be used to evaluate the HTP Capstone Project and determine if a student group has met the HTP requirements. This means that the Final Product will not be assessed as part of the HTP Capstone Project. In their Final Report, the HTP student group should demonstrate that their project effectively addresses the relevant audiences and communicates the findings to them. To successfully complete the HTP Capstone Project, students must also engage in advanced interdisciplinary research, incorporating theoretical frameworks from multiple disciplines. The student group should collect a significant amount of additional data and show their proficiency in using advanced social science and data science methods. All these components—theory, data, and methods—should contribute to a deeper understanding of the topic at hand. In essence, a successful HTP Capstone Project should be a demonstration of rigorous and advanced research.

## Deadlines

Friday, April 25, 2025 (17.00)	<b>Progress check</b> <i>Submission of PDF file via Canvas</i>
Friday, June 6, 2025 (17.00)	<b>Final submission</b> <i>Submission of PDF file via Canvas</i>

## Assessment Criteria

- Ability to address the relevant audiences (such as academic, professional, non-professional) and to use a communication style that is appropriate for these audiences.
- In the theoretical framework, ability to integrate insights from at least one discipline other than their own, thus involving a minimum of two disciplines.
- A significant amount of additional data relevant to the research question has been gathered.
- Mixed-methods approaches and/or advanced quantitative or qualitative methods have been used, and the chosen methodological extensions add additional understanding to the topic.
- In addition to the word limit specified in the 'Final Report' assignment, the HTP student group may extend this limit by up to 4,000 words.

# HTP Reflection Essay

## Individual Assignment

In addition to the standard Reflection Essay, HTP students are required to submit an HTP Reflection Essay. In this essay, students should revisit the individual goals and learning objectives set forth in the HTP Project Proposal to evaluate their achievement and reflect on any objectives that were not met. The essay should also illustrate how the student independently contributed to parts of the Capstone project. It must provide evidence that an additional 168 hours were devoted to the project by the individual student, as reflected in the quality of the final deliverables and demonstrated through the project's innovation, originality, and analytical depth.

## Deadlines

Wednesday, May 7, 2025 (17.00)	<b>Progress check</b> <i>Submission of PDF file via Canvas</i>
Wednesday, June 11, 2025 (17.00)	<b>Final submission</b> <i>Submission of PDF file via Canvas</i>

## Assessment Criteria

- Ability to critically assess and reflect on whether individual goals and learning objectives were met.
- Ability to highlight and critically reflect on independent work and individual contributions to the Capstone project.
- Ability to demonstrate the investment of additional effort and time in the Capstone project.
- Ability to demonstrate a new level of critical depth or originality in the Capstone project.
- Word limit: 2,000 words.

### Version History:

Feb 1, 2025: V1.1