Cross Campus Capstone Classroom

Multidisciplinary.
Diverse.
Real Impact.

capstone.yorku.ca

YCN York Capstone Network | YORK UNIVERSITÉ UNIVERSITY



Photo credit:
Meagan Veneracion



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WHAT IS A CAPSTONE?

Capstone experiences invite students to:

- Consolidate, integrate, and apply their prior learning
- Dig into a complex research or design project
- Develop their independence, agency, and autonomy
- Hone their advanced critical and creative thinking skills
- Reflect upon their academic and professional journeys
- Communicate with different stakeholders

WHAT IS C4?

Cross-Campus Capstone Classroom – or C4 for short – is a new initiative that enables students to collaborate in multi-disciplinary teams with faculty and project partners on year-long capstone projects pitched by non-profits, start-ups, and businesses who want to make real social impact.

C4 enhances departmental curriculum by providing high impact experiential learning opportunities that explicitly link disciplinary knowledge and skill to pressing social problems, thus enabling students to strengthen professional skills without the allocation of resources a regular course requires.

EXAMPLES OF C4 PROJECTS

An Environmentally Useful Art Installation (Markham Arts Council)

A Pen-Pal Program for Study Abroad Students (Glendon Globally Networked Learning)

Urban Food Growing Technology System (Canobi Tech)

An Inflatable Solar Energy Collector for Developing Areas (CooperLab)

An Experiential Trauma Research Portal for Frontline Workers (Yonge Street Mission)

GET IN TOUCH WITH US

Reach out to the C4 Team to find out how you, your department, and your undergraduate students can get involved with C4.

1

CUSTOMIZE THE EXPERIENCE

Work with the C4 Team to customize your students' engagement with C4's interdisciplinary, collaborative experience, depending on individual departmental needs and expectations.

2

COMMIT TO SUPPORT

Confirm your support for C4 by designating a course in your program that can act as a pathway. Appoint a departmental liaison and decide how many students your department can support next year.

3

CONNECT TO PROJECTS AND PARTNERS

Engage your students with the exciting "real world" challenges we have curated in dialogue with off-campus partners by coming to Capstone Pitch Day in September.

4

SUPPORT YOUR STUDENTS' JOURNEY

Check in with your students monthly as they develop their projects and collaborate with us on marking their assignments.

5

CELEBRATE

Join us for our Spring Capstone Celebration Day, where we showcase what students have accomplished over the school year with the benefit of faculty and a wide range of off-campus partners.

6

C4 FAQs

Q1 **What do we need from department contacts now?**
We would love to know which courses in your department could best partner with C4 so we can list them on our website. If you have specific requirements for participation, including assessment, let's meet as soon as possible to discuss. We would like your assistance with promoting this opportunity among your students and have flyers ready for you to send out.

Q2 **But what about program specific expectations?**
We work with department specific requirements. We expect that each student's experience in C4 will be a little different because of the range of discipline-specific courses they are registered in. Tell us your learning expectations and assessment needs and the C4 team will try to meet them.

Q3 **How do you match students with projects?**
As we curate projects with off-campus partners, we identify their scope well in advance of Pitch Day, to help match the right team with the right project. If you have projects or partners in mind for your students, tell us early in the summer so we can optimize your students' experiences.

Q4 **What happens at C4 meetings during the course?**
C4 meetings develop core professional skills to help interdisciplinary teams work together. We help students explore each others' perspectives, capabilities, networks, and understandings. We want students to be able to recognize how valuing each others' differences creates a better solution and ultimately a better world.

Please feel free to contact the network with any additional questions (contact details on back of brochure).

Other ways to engage

Photo credit: Ashley Williamson



FALL AND SPRING EVENTS

If you are a capstone teacher, you are welcome to pitch projects to your students at our **Fall Capstone Pitch Day** and to celebrate your students' projects at our **Spring Capstone Celebration Day**. We want to suppport all capstone learning at York University.

Photo credit: Meagan Veneracion



CAPSTONE CAFÉS

The York Capstone Network hosts regular **Capstone Cafés** in the Teaching Commons to help professors and students reap the huge rewards of capstone courses and overcome their inherent challenges. Whether you are currently running a capstone, thinking of adding one, or just interested in their potential, you are most welcome to attend.



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Chat with the C4 team

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Students can sign up for C4 at **tiny.cc/c8yimz**

For general inquiries, you can also email us at c4class@yorku.ca.

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