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# The University of Georgia

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School of Public and International Affairs  
Department of International Affairs

## Checklist: MIP Capstone Paper

### The Semester Before You Complete Your Capstone

1. Sign up for your last advising appointment with the MIP Program Director to discuss research ideas for your capstone paper and to verify that you are on track to fulfil your MIP program requirements. Note: the Capstone Paper can be either an independent study or a team project on any issue area relating to international security and non-proliferation.

2. Choose a major professor either from CITS or IA who will serve as your capstone paper's project mentor. You'll need to have chosen a major professor before you can be cleared for the MIP Capstone Paper class for the next semester.

3. Schedule an appointment with the Graduate Advisor. During this meeting you will complete your Program of Study for Non-Doctoral Professional Degrees.

**Note: Only do this after you know who will serve as your capstone paper mentor.**

4. It's never too early to start working on your Capstone Paper! Next semester, you will be required to allow your major professor two weeks to work with you on your final draft, and then arrange for the oral examination of the capstone paper. This means *you may not have the entire semester to write your Capstone Paper*. To avoid a last-minute rush, start now.

### The Semester in Which You Complete Your Capstone

1. Apply for graduation on Athena. The deadline to do so comes shortly after the beginning of the semester. You can find this semester's Graduate School deadlines [here](#).

2. Follow departmental deadlines for completing your Capstone Paper. The Graduate Advisor and MIP Program Director will have sent these dates out shortly after the midpoint of the previous semester.

3. The capstone paper should be 15-20 pages in length and must be completed by the midpoint of the final semester. The CITS/IA major professor will schedule a capstone paper defense shortly after the submission of the paper.

4. At the defense, you may be asked to make changes to your Capstone Paper before final approval. You will need to make these changes and submit them to your major professor, who will need to sign off on them by the appropriate deadline. This deadline will be noted on the Master in International Policy program [website](#).