INTL 407 Syllabus: Introduction to Thesis

The International Degree program is an innovative and exciting dimension of Oregon State University's undergraduate degree programs. We are pleased that you have embarked on this ambitious endeavor. By choosing to participate in this program, you have allied yourself with some of OSU's most creative students. We are committed to working with you to make your program exciting, useful and enjoyable!

I. Instructors

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II. Course Objectives

1. Identify a thesis topic which places your major in an international context
2. Understand the thesis format requirements
3. Find a thesis advisor
4. Identify resources to assist in developing your thesis
5. Clarify your responsibilities in meeting the ID program requirements
6. Gain experience in giving oral presentations
7. Meet ID students and staff

-Statement Regarding Students with Disabilities
"Accommodations are collaborative efforts between students, faculty and Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Students with accommodations approved through SSD are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through SSD should contact SSD immediately at 737-4098."

-Statement Regarding Student Absences
Attendance is required at all three class meetings. Maximum effort should be made to attend this course in its entirety, but with the possibility of H1N1 outbreaks, use judgment with illness. Students are responsible for reporting absences to instructors as soon as possible. Email Renee at renee.stowell@oregonstate.edu as soon as you know if you will be unable to attend. You will not be penalized when an absence is due to significant illness or other serious, unforeseeable circumstances. Reasonable compensatory experiences will be agreed upon to ensure academic progress.

-Link to Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct, i.e., cheating policies http://oregonstate.edu/admin/stucon/achon.htm
III. International Degree Program Requirements

1. Meaningfully engage another culture and language for a minimum of 10 weeks (1-quarter).
2. Attain fourth-year proficiency in a second language with a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all foreign language courses.
3. Complete four additional baccalaureate core courses.

*Note: Credits earned for items 1-4 must total at least 32 credits, in addition to those earned for your primary degree.*

*Get an early start on the thesis and make it more enjoyable for you and for your advisor!*

IV. Course Overview

**Class 1**

I. Introductions
II. Course Overview
III. Identifying a thesis topic which places your major in an international context
IV. Finding a thesis advisor
V. Cross-cultural considerations in research
VI. Assignments
VII. Scholarships

**Class 2**

I. Primary Research & Library Tutorials
II. Institutional Review Board (IRB)
III. Ethics & Methods in research
IV. Cross-cultural considerations in research
V. Student perspectives
VI. Assignments
VII. Thesis format and requirements

**Class 3**

I. Student presentations and discussion
II. Implementing your thesis: working with an advisor and following your timetable
III. Cross-Cultural considerations in research
IV. Writing Center
V. Format for final thesis

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V. Grading/Assignments

The class awards one credit and will be graded as P/NP. To successfully complete the course, students must meet all of the following requirements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignments</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance Required</td>
<td>January 13, February 3, February 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Tutorials &amp; Quizzes</td>
<td>January 13, February 3, February 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximizing Study Abroad Readings &amp; Activities</td>
<td>January 13, February 3, February 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary Research Tutorial</td>
<td>February 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis Advisor</td>
<td>Ongoing, due February 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis Proposal Presentation</td>
<td>February 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thesis Log (in progress)</td>
<td>March 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>“Senior Thesis Proposal and Timetable</strong> (green form plus two-page narrative of thesis proposal) – hard copy and e-copy**</td>
<td>March 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>“WIC Requirement Form</strong> (yellow form) – signed by thesis advisor**</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
VI. Recommended Reading and Resources

Required Text


Recommended Reading:

3. The Art of Crossing Cultures by Craig Sorti.
4. Figuring Foreigners Out by Craig Sorti.
5. Cultural Influences on Research Methods and Statistics by David Matsumoto.


Background information on primary research

- http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/559/01

Web-based References on the Scientific Process by Dr. Brent Steel, OSU Political Science Department

- PS 400-Political Analysis: http://oregonstate.edu/cla/polisci/faculty/bsteel/courses/ps400/
- 8 steps to the Scientific Inquiry: http://oregonstate.edu/cla/polisci/faculty/bsteel/courses/ps400/8steps.php

Web Based Information for International Degree Thesis, including student profiles and titles of ID theses

- http://oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad/degree/current/thesis

Scholarship Information

- http://oregonstate.edu/international/studyabroad/degree/current/scholarships

The Writing Center http://cwl.oregonstate.edu/twc.html