
Directed Studies (IS 494)
Basic Guidelines

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Selecting Topic and Assignment:

Both topic and assignment for a directed studies are flexible. Generally, students can identify either a broad topic (like a general or specialized course that is not taught, e.g. environmental politics) or a specific research topic (e.g. environmental aspects of free trade agreements).

If selecting a broad topic, the assignment should include the review of one or two basic texts covering the area of study and then a short research paper (or book review essay) on a more selected area within the field.

If selecting a specific research topic, the assignment should be either a series of essays on various aspects of the topic or one large research paper.

Schedule and Due Dates:

Time	Broad Topic (reviews and paper)	Specialized Topic (research assignment)
Week 2	Submit the <u>directed studies proposal</u> for review and approval. The proposal should demonstrate initial research into the topic or area.	Submit the <u>directed studies proposal</u> for review and approval. The proposal should demonstrate initial research into the topic or area.
Week 6	Prepare a 4-6 page <u>review of the basic text(s)</u> . This paper should provide a broad overview of the topic and offer a careful chapter-by-chapter summary. The paper need not engage in much analysis.	Prepare a 4-6 page <u>outline</u> that includes: a) title; b) hypothesis and basic approach; c) outline of the topics and sub-themes to be addressed in the paper; and d) an annotated bibliography (an annotated bibliography is a listing of the sources with a brief paragraph on the type of information the source provides).
Week 8	<u>Proposal and outline</u> for the smaller specialized paper. This	

	<p>should be focused on a specific aspect of the broader subject and involve additional outside research. The outline will describe a) the topic, b) the project and c) an annotated bibliography. You should consult at least 10 outside sources.</p>	
Week 12	<p>Submit a <u>rough draft</u> of the 10-12 page specialized paper.</p>	<p>Submit a <u>rough draft</u>. This should be a completed draft with citations and sources. The paper should be between 20-25 pages in length and contain at least 20 outside sources.</p>
Week 14	<p>Submit the <u>final version</u> of the paper.</p>	<p>Submit the <u>final version</u> of the research paper.</p>

Submission of Materials and Meetings with Professor:

You may submit materials by email. You will receive feedback at each stage in the process. Once I have completed a review of the materials, I will notify you to set up a meeting to discuss your work. You are responsible for making sure that assignments are submitted on time and that we meet periodically to review your work.