



Date Received: _____

- APPROVED FOR CREDIT IN THE IS MAJOR: I E HIM
- DENIED FOR CREDIT IN THE IS MAJOR

INITIALS: _____ DATE: _____

HONORS/SENIOR THESIS PETITION FORM

This form is for students who have enrolled in the Honors Thesis or Senior Thesis course progression and would like to count the course in the IS Major or in Honors in the IS Major. Fill out this form and turn it in with the attached response sheet to 301 Ingraham Hall for consideration.

STUDENT'S NAME: _____ STUDENT ID: _____

OPTION IN THE MAJOR (circle one): SECURITY ECONOMY CULTURE ENVIRONMENT

Please type your responses to the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Summarize your research project.
2. Explain how this research project augments or complements your academic goals and professional aspirations.
3. How has this research project enhanced your understanding of the International Studies field?
4. What have you gained by working one-on-one with a faculty member at UW?

NAME OF SUPERVISING FACULTY: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

THESIS INITIATED (circle one): FALL SPRING SUMMER YEAR: _____

DEPT NAME AND COURSE NUMBERS: _____

DEADLINE: SUBMIT THIS FORM BY THE END OF THE FIRST SEMESTER IN WHICH THE THESIS WAS INITIATED
Late, incomplete, or illegible forms will not be considered. No exceptions.

HONORS/SENIOR THESIS

Guidelines for Receiving Credit in the IS Major

- In order to receive credit in the Major, you will need your thesis proposal to be approved by an IS Major advisor.
- For students following the HONORS in the MAJOR curriculum: Your thesis topic *must* be relevant to your Option. The thesis can count toward the Honors in the Major requirement and *one* of your ISSUES courses. The four course rule will not apply to the thesis courses.
- For students *not* following the HONORS in the MAJOR curriculum: Your thesis must be relevant to any of the four Options in the Major. *One* of the thesis courses may count toward ISSUES or ELECTIVES in the Major. Students should be mindful of the four course rule when applying for credit in IS.
- DEADLINE: This form must be submitted by the end of the FIRST semester in which thesis was initiated.

Finding the Appropriate Content for your Thesis

- The content of your work must be relevant to the Major. Visit this [WEBSITE](#) for a subject guide.
- Your subject must be international in scope.
- Topics pertaining to the United States of America must place the United States within a global context. Examples might include: comparative institutions or policies, migration patterns from other regions to the United States, flows of capital and goods between the United States and foreign countries, NGOs and IOs based in the United States, etc. A good gauge would be that no more than 50% of your project/paper focuses on U.S.-specific institutions, policies, histories, economy, etc.
- Time period must be post-1800.

Finding an Instructor to Mentor you

1. You will need to need to work out a proposed subject, a brief proposal, and working bibliography *before* approaching an instructor.
2. Match your subject to an instructor (or more rarely, work out a subject with an instructor you have had in the past and would like to work with further).
3. Look up prospective instructors on their departmental website(s). Google them. You may be surprised to find the scope of an instructor's interests. Look for the instructor's curriculum vita or resume. What do they research? What have they written recently?
4. Come up with at least two possible instructors to whom you can pitch your project.
5. Discuss your project proposals IN PERSON. Emailing your "pitch" is the perfect way to get it rejected.
6. When proposing your project, don't forget to relate it back to the instructor's own research. Instructors like working with students on subjects relevant to their own work.
7. Consider the instructor's availability. Will the instructor be available throughout the academic year (e.g., will the instructor leave for periods of time for conferences or research)? Is the instructor willing to meet regularly?

Tips for Success

- Discuss with your instructor the process of registering for the thesis courses (who will contact you about registering for each course? When? How many credits?). Don't forget your ADD deadline!
- Be specific about the scope and length of the thesis, research methods, deadlines, etc.
- Work with your instructor to create a regular meeting schedule.
- Clarify the instructor's role in evaluating your work throughout and at the end of each semester.
- Keep track of your time commitment to your project and communicate regularly with your instructor about it.