

UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IS: 4990 INTERNATIONAL STUDIES SENIOR PROJECT
INFORMATION FOR FACULTY MENTORS AND IS STUDENTS

The International Studies Program is grateful to the many faculty members across campus serving as faculty mentors to our majors.

Faculty eligible to supervise IS: 4990 Intl Studies Senior Project include the following: tenured, tenure-track, clinical, or visiting or adjunct faculty, at the rank of lecturer, assistant professor, associate professor, or professor.

The Basics:

- IS senior project is 3 s.h. of graded coursework; faculty mentors submit grades for senior project via MAUI.
- IS senior project may be either a 15-20 research paper or a creative project; the topic must clearly relate to the student's International Studies B.A. track.
- Faculty and students must arrange meeting times (ideally bi-weekly), which will allow the student to not only complete the project but also to adhere to the semester's deadlines (please contact [intludies@uiowa.edu](mailto:intlstudies@uiowa.edu) with any questions/concerns about these deadlines).
- Faculty mentors are encouraged to evaluate students based on the entire semester's effort, not just the final product.

Deadlines (for semester during which student is enrolled in IS senior project):

- Before the end of week two, faculty must sign Registration Preapproval form.
- Before the Wednesday of week 7, faculty must sign Progress Report.
- Before the Friday of week 16, faculty must sign "IS Cover Sheet" so that student can electronically submit one copy of senior project to the International Studies Program.
- Faculty will submit a grade for IS:4990 Intl Studies Senior Project on MAUI before the grade submission deadline for the semester.

Expectations for IS:4990 Intl Studies Senior Project include:

- Students will approach faculty with a preliminary research proposal; present sound reasoning for requesting to work with faculty; and demonstrate an intellectual curiosity for their topic.
- Students will take the initiative for scheduling and attending meetings with faculty. Faculty and students will work to define goals for each meeting; students will come prepared to meet those goals.
- Faculty mentors will help students form a strong topic with a set of provocative research questions, in part by discussing their own steps in generating an idea, conducting research, developing an argument, using and documenting sources, and revising.
- Faculty will provide students insight into the process for conducting research in their own field (i.e. standard reference works, bibliographies, major journals and web resources, key concepts and thinkers, methodologies), while also recognizing the multidisciplinary perspective inherent to the field of International Studies.
- Students will be well informed about the semester's deadlines and communicate that info to their faculty mentor.
- Faculty and students with any questions about IS:4990 Intl Studies Senior Project will contact the International Studies Program at [intludies@uiowa.edu](mailto:intlstudies@uiowa.edu).

Human Subjects in IS:4990 Intl Studies Senior Project:

- Any IS senior project which involves "human subjects" must be reviewed by the University of Iowa Institutional Review Board (IRB).
- Students whose IS senior project includes "human subjects" must submit an [IRB determination form](#) and submit proof of the review process to the International Studies Program.
- Students with questions must contact IRB at 319-335-6564.