SENIOR THESIS

The senior thesis course (HIST, POLT, INTL 4700) allows qualified seniors to pursue serious individual research and present their ideas in a substantive (and substantial) paper.

A. To take the thesis course, a student must:

1. Be a senior with a minimum GPA of 3.5 within the department. (That is, in courses taken at Webster University within the History, Politics and International Relations Department.)

3. Be nominated or recommended by a member of the department.

3. Have a mentor who has agreed to work with him/her.

4. Submit, and have approved, a statement of intent and preliminary bibliography of at least 5-10 items.

B. The thesis must:

1. Address a substantive issue in politics, history, or international relations.

2. Include a thoughtful review of previous relevant literature on the topic in question.

3. Support central claims with concrete examples (facts) and systematic argument.

4. Be at least forty standard pages in length, including documentation (source citations).

5. Have a separate bibliography.

C. General Policies

1. Each thesis will be read by the departmental faculty mentor and two outside readers, at least one of whom should also be a member of the History, Politics and International Relations Department.

2. The thesis (and course) will be given a letter grade.

3. The Senior Thesis satisfies the research requirement.

4. The course will be offered for 4 credits.