



**IAFS 4800-801**  
**HONORS SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**  
**UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER, FALL 2020**  
**TU/TH, 11:10 – 12:25 STAD 140**

<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. Doug Snyder	<b>Office Hours</b>	MW 3-4, TuTh 4-5 and by appt. All Office Hours virtual via zoom – Meeting ID info found on Canvas
<b>Campus Office Location</b>	Baker E102F	<b>E-mail</b>	douglas.snyder@colorado.edu

### **Course Overview**

This course will lay the foundation for a successful undergraduate honors thesis. It will help you refine your thesis topic, understand and execute the different components of a thesis, and improve your ability to defend your work. It will ask you to fulfill a series of assignments that break your project into manageable parts and help you build the skills and habits to complete a significant original research project. Instead of a traditional content-heavy course, the class will focus on craft and feedback. The topics we will discuss and the material we emphasize will depend in large part on your individual research interests and concerns. I want to be as helpful as possible in establishing a strong basis for your final thesis. As such, please consider our schedule more flexible than a typical course.

### **Important Arts & Sciences Honors Deadlines**

Tues, October 6, 2020 at 4:00 pm – Honors Registration Paperwork Due to the Honors Program Office via email ([honors@colorado.edu](mailto:honors@colorado.edu))

Tues, April 7, 2021 at 4:00 pm – Last Day to Defend Thesis and Defense Copy Due to Honors Program Office (in practice, this means your thesis should be complete by **mid-March**)

Mon, April 12, 2021 at 11:59 pm – Final Thesis Copy Submitted via CU Scholar

Fri, April 16, 2021 by 5:00 pm – Honors Designations Emailed

More information can be found at: <https://www.colorado.edu/honors/graduation>

### **Grading Breakdown**

Participation (20%)

Topic Statement and Research Plan (10%)

Annotated Bibliography and Literature Review (15%)

Research Presentation (15%)

Reports (10%)

Final Paper (30%)

**Assignments Overview (more detailed information will be distributed before deadlines; portions adapted from past IAFS 4800 syllabi)**

*For F20, all completed assignments will be uploaded to Canvas.*

**Participation (20%)**

This class requires active involvement from all attendees. This participation will come in the form of group work, small presentations, and constructive feedback and questions provided to your peers. You will also offer dedicated feedback for the presentation of one of your peers. Frequent participation offers an invaluable chance to prepare for your thesis defense and improve your ability to articulate your ideas orally.

**Topic Statement and Research Plan (10%) – 2-3 pages due Thurs, 9/17**

Introduces topic and specifies the question(s) you seek to answer. Establishes a preliminary research plan. This will also comprise part of your Honors Registration Paperwork.

**Annotated Bibliography and Literature Review (15%) – 5-7 page annotated bibliography due Thursday, 9/24; 4-5 page literature review due Thursday, 10/15.**

Identify books, articles, online sources, etc. relevant to your topic. Consult with you advisor and explain the literature thematically. Format citations appropriately. An unannotated version of the bibliography will also comprise part of your Honors Registration Paperwork due to me on 10/1.

**Research Presentation (15%) – in-class presentation on selected day between 10/6 and 11/10**

Lead a seminar on your developing research. Summarize your intellectual puzzle, its significance, your methods, the relevant literature, and problems you are having. Address questions from your discussant, peers, and me.

**Reports (10%)**

To help build strong research, communication, and organizational habits, you will have to complete a few small written assignments. These will include: a topic paragraph, two Memoranda of Conversation from meetings with your primary advisor, and a MemCon from your individual consultation with a library specialist.

Due Dates:    Topic Paragraph, Thurs, 9/3  
                  Advisor MemCon One, Thurs, 9/24 (or earlier)  
                  Library MemCon, Thurs, 10/29 (or earlier)  
                  Advisor MemCon Two, Thurs, 11/19 (or earlier)

**Final Paper (30%) – 20-25 pages, due Thurs, 12/10**

Includes a detailed introduction, the thesis scaffolding, and a chapter-by-chapter outline of your thesis. It will also include either a “mini-thesis” composed of abbreviated versions of each chapter or a full first chapter. You will submit a copy of this final paper to your primary advisor.

**Readings**

All of the course readings will be found on Canvas. We will draw most frequently from Roselle and Spray, *Research and Writing in International Relations* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed., 2008).

## **IAFS 4800 Schedule, F20**

### Week One: Introductions and Topics

Tues, 8/25     Introductions

Thurs, 8/27    Topic Discussion

### Week Two: Topic Selection

Tues, 9/1     Clarifying Your Research Topic  
                  \*Hunter, "How to Write a Research Paper"  
                  \*Roselle & Spray, Introduction and Chapter 1

Thurs, 9/3     Creating a Large Research Project  
                  \*Harvard Department of Government, "A Guide to Writing a Senior  
                  Thesis in Government," pamphlet pages 3-6, 11-28  
                  \*Roselle & Spray, Chapters 3 and 4  
                  **Topic Paragraph Due**

### Week Three: Doing Research

Tues, 9/8     Scholarly Research: Library Visit with IAFS Area Expert via zoom (date  
                  tentative)  
                  Sign up for additional one-on-one appointment

Thurs, 9/10    Methodology Discussion, Day I  
                  \*Week Three Canvas Readings

### Week Four: Methodology and Literature Review

Tues, 9/15     Methodology Discussion, Day II  
                  \*Week Four Canvas Readings

Thurs, 9/17    Reviewing the Literature  
                  \*Week Four Canvas Readings  
                  **Topic Statement and Research Plan Due**

### Week Five: Literature Review and You

Tues, 9/22     Your Sources  
                  \*Week Five Canvas Readings

Thurs, 9/24    Your Contributions  
                  \*Week Five Canvas Readings  
                  **Annotated Bibliography Due; Advisor Memcon One Due**

Week Six: Research Meetings

Tues, 9/29 No Class (one-on-one zoom meetings with me)

**Email me Completed Honors Registration Form and Paperwork**

Thurs, 10/1 No Class (one-on-one zoom meetings with me)

Week Seven: Research Workshops

Tues, 10/6 In-class research presentations

**HONORS REGISTRATION FORM DUE AT 4 PM TO  
HONORS@COLORADO.EDU**

Thurs, 10/8 In-class research presentations

Week Eight: Research Workshops

Tues, 10/13 In-class research presentations

Thurs, 10/15 In-class research presentations  
**Literature Review Due**

Week Nine: Research Workshops

Tues, 10/20 In-class research presentations

Thurs, 10/22 In-class research presentations

Week Ten: Research Workshops

Tues, 10/27 In-class research presentations

Thurs, 10/29 In-class research presentations  
**Library Memcon Due (at latest)**

Week Eleven: Research Workshops

Tues, 11/3 In-class presentations

Thurs, 11/5 In-class presentations

Week Twelve: Research Workshops, Etc.

Tues, 11/10 In-class presentations

Thurs, 11/12 Strategy Session

Week Thirteen: Writing Workshops

Tues, 11/17 Writing Discussion  
\*Week Thirteen Readings

Thurs, 11/19 Writing Feedback  
**Advisor Memcon Two Due**

Week Fourteen: Writing

Tues, 11/24 No class (work on final paper; one-on-one meetings if desired)

11/26-11/29: FALL BREAK

Week Fifteen: Writing (Remote)

Tues, 12/1 Class & Partner Check-ins (Zoom)

Thurs, 12/3 Next Steps (Zoom)

**Thursday, 12/10 @ 5 pm MT - Final Paper Due**

**Syllabus Statements**

**Classroom Behavior**

Both students and faculty are responsible for maintaining an appropriate learning environment in all instructional settings, whether in person, remote or online. Those who fail to adhere to such behavioral standards may be subject to discipline. Professional courtesy and sensitivity are especially important with respect to individuals and topics dealing with race, color, national origin, sex, pregnancy, age, disability, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran status, political affiliation or political philosophy. For more information, see the policies on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#).

**\*\*Requirements for COVID-19\*\***

As a matter of public health and safety due to the pandemic, all members of the CU Boulder community and all visitors to campus must follow university, department and building requirements, and public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. Required safety measures at CU Boulder relevant to the classroom setting include:

- maintain 6-foot distancing when possible,
- wear a face covering in public indoor spaces and outdoors while on campus consistent with state and county health orders,
- clean local work area,
- practice hand hygiene,
- follow public health orders, and
- if sick and you live off campus, do not come onto campus (unless instructed by a CU Healthcare professional), or if you live on-campus, please alert [CU Boulder Medical Services](#).

Students who fail to adhere to these requirements will be asked to leave class, and students who do not leave class when asked or who refuse to comply with these requirements will be referred to [Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution](#). For more information, see the policies on [COVID-19 Health and Safety](#) and [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#). If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please see the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus.

Before returning to campus, all students must complete the [COVID-19 Student Health and Expectations Course](#). Before coming on to campus each day, all students are required to complete a [Daily Health Form](#).

Students who have tested positive for COVID-19, have symptoms of COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for or had symptoms of COVID-19 must stay home and complete the [Health Questionnaire and Illness Reporting Form](#) remotely.

In this class, if you are sick or quarantined, email me directly to let me know you. You are not required to state the nature of your illness when alerting me. I will then provide you with a zoom link to stream the class remotely during our regular class time. If further accommodations are necessary, we will figure out a mutually agreed upon arrangement regarding make-up work.

### **Accommodation for Disabilities**

If you qualify for accommodations because of a disability, please submit your accommodation letter from Disability Services to your faculty member in a timely manner so that your needs can be addressed. Disability Services determines accommodations based on documented disabilities in the academic environment. Information on requesting accommodations is located on the [Disability Services website](#). Contact Disability Services at 303-492-8671 or [dsinfo@colorado.edu](mailto:dsinfo@colorado.edu) for further assistance. If you have a temporary medical condition, see [Temporary Medical Conditions](#) on the Disability Services website.

### **Preferred Student Names and Pronouns**

CU Boulder recognizes that students' legal information doesn't always align with how they identify. Students may update their preferred names and pronouns via the student portal; those preferred names and pronouns are listed on instructors' class rosters. In the absence of such updates, the name that appears on the class roster is the student's legal name.

### **Honor Code**

All students enrolled in a University of Colorado Boulder course are responsible for knowing and adhering to the Honor Code. Violations of the policy may include: plagiarism, cheating, fabrication, lying, bribery, threat, unauthorized access to academic materials, clicker fraud, submitting the same or similar work in more than one course without permission from all course instructors involved, and aiding academic dishonesty. All incidents of academic misconduct will be reported to the Honor Code ([honor@colorado.edu](mailto:honor@colorado.edu)); 303-492-5550). Students found responsible for violating the academic integrity policy will be subject to nonacademic sanctions from the Honor Code as well as academic sanctions from the faculty member. Additional information regarding the Honor Code academic integrity policy can be found at the [Honor Code Office website](#).

### **Sexual Misconduct, Discrimination, Harassment and/or Related Retaliation**

The University of Colorado Boulder (CU Boulder) is committed to fostering an inclusive and welcoming learning, working, and living environment. CU Boulder will not tolerate acts of sexual misconduct (harassment, exploitation, and assault), intimate partner violence (dating or domestic violence), stalking, or protected-class discrimination or harassment by members of our community. Individuals who believe they have been subject to misconduct or retaliatory actions for reporting a concern should contact the Office of Institutional Equity and Compliance (OIEC) at 303-492-2127 or [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about the OIEC, university policies, [anonymous reporting](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and instructors have a responsibility to inform OIEC when made aware of incidents of sexual misconduct, dating and domestic violence, stalking, discrimination, harassment and/or related retaliation, to ensure that individuals impacted receive information about options for reporting and support resources.

### **Religious Holidays**

Campus policy regarding religious observances requires that faculty make every effort to deal reasonably and fairly with all students who, because of religious obligations, have conflicts with scheduled exams, assignments or required attendance. See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.