



**IAFS 4800-801**  
**HONORS SEMINAR IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**  
**UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER, FALL 2021**  
**TU/TH, 11:10 – 12:25 HUMN 335**

<b>Instructor</b>	Dr. Doug Snyder	<b>Office Hours</b>	MW 2:45-3:45, TuTh, 12:45-2:00 and by appt. Office Hours held in person or via zoom with scheduled appt.
<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 5, 2021 at 4:00 pm – Honors Registration Paperwork due to the Honors Program Office through online form: [https://cuboulder.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2hlroJCFakgF5ly](https://cuboulder.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2hlroJCFakgF5ly)

Tues, April 6, 2022 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 11, 2022 at 11:59 pm – Final Thesis Copy Submitted via CU Scholar

Fri, April 15, 2022 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)**

**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, 9/16**

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, 9/23; 4-5 page literature review due Thursday, 10/14.**

Identify books, articles, online sources, etc. relevant to your topic. Consult with your 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 9/30.

**Research Presentation (15%) – in-class presentation on selected day between 10/5 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, 9/2  
                         Advisor MemCon One, Thurs, 9/23 (or earlier)  
                         Library MemCon, Thurs, 10/28 (or earlier)  
                         Advisor MemCon Two, Thurs, 11/18 (or earlier)

**Final Paper (30%) – 20-25 pages, due Thurs, 12/9**

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, F21

### Week One: Introductions and Topics

Tues, 8/24     Introductions

Thurs, 8/26     Topic Discussion

### Week Two: Topic Selection

Tues, 8/31     Clarifying Your Research Topic  
                  \*Hunter, "How to Write a Research Paper"  
                  \*Roselle & Spray, Introduction and Chapter 1

Thurs, 9/2     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, 9/7     Scholarly Research: Library Visit with IAFS Area Expert (date tentative)  
                  Sign up for additional one-on-one appointment

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

### Week Four: Methodology and Literature Review

Tues, 9/14     Methodology Discussion, Day II  
                  \*Week Four Canvas Readings

Thurs, 9/16     Reviewing the Literature  
                  \*Week Four Canvas Readings  
                  **Topic Statement and Research Plan Due**

### Week Five: Literature Review and You

Tues, 9/21     Your Sources  
                  \*Week Five Canvas Readings

Thurs, 9/23     Your Contributions  
                  \*Week Five Canvas Readings  
                  **Annotated Bibliography Due; Advisor Memcon One Due**

### Week Six: Research Meetings

Tues, 9/28     No Class (one-on-one meetings with me)

Thurs, 9/30     No Class (one-on-one meetings with me)  
                  **Email me Completed Honors Registration Paperwork**

Week Seven: Research Workshops

Tues, 10/5 In-class research presentations

**HONORS REGISTRATION FORM DUE AT 4 PM to**  
[https://cuboulder.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_2h1roJCFakgF5Iv](https://cuboulder.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2h1roJCFakgF5Iv)

Thurs, 10/7 In-class research presentations

Week Eight: Research Workshops

Tues, 10/12 In-class research presentations

Thurs, 10/14 In-class research presentations  
**Literature Review Due**

Week Nine: Research Workshops

Tues, 10/19 In-class research presentations

Thurs, 10/21 In-class research presentations

Week Ten: Research Workshops

Tues, 10/26 In-class research presentations

Thurs, 10/28 In-class research presentations  
**Library Memcon Due (at latest)**

Week Eleven: Research Workshops

Tues, 11/2 In-class presentations

Thurs, 11/4 In-class presentations

Week Twelve: Research Workshops, Etc.

Tues, 11/9 In-class presentations

Thurs, 11/11 Strategy Session

Week Thirteen: Writing Workshops

Tues, 11/16 Writing Discussion  
\*Week Thirteen Readings

Thurs, 11/18 Writing Feedback  
**Advisor Memcon Two Due**

11/22-11/26: FALL BREAK

Week Fourteen: Writing

Tues, 11/30 and Thurs 12/2 No class (work on final paper; one-on-one meetings if desired)

## Week Fifteen: Writing

Tues, 12/7 Class & Partner Check-ins

Thurs, 12/9 Next Steps; **Final Paper Due @ 11:59 pm MT**

---

### **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 Conduct & Conflict Resolution policies](#).

#### **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 all public health orders in place to reduce the risk of spreading infectious disease. 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 policy on [classroom behavior](#) and the [Student Code of Conduct](#). If you require accommodation because a disability prevents you from fulfilling these safety measures, please follow the steps in the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus.

As of Aug. 13, 2021, CU Boulder has returned to requiring masks in classrooms and laboratories regardless of vaccination status. This requirement is a temporary precaution during the delta surge to supplement CU Boulder’s COVID-19 vaccine requirement. Exemptions include individuals who cannot medically tolerate a face covering, as well as those who are hearing-impaired or otherwise disabled or who are communicating with someone who is hearing-impaired or otherwise disabled and where the ability to see the mouth is essential to communication. If you qualify for a mask-related accommodation, please follow the steps in the “Accommodation for Disabilities” statement on this syllabus. In addition, vaccinated instructional faculty who are engaged in an indoor instructional activity and are separated by at least 6 feet from the nearest person are exempt from wearing masks if they so choose.

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. 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 academic integrity policy. Violations of the Honor Code may include, but are not limited to: 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 on the [Honor Code 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 or against 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 email [cureport@colorado.edu](mailto:cureport@colorado.edu). Information about OIEC, university policies, [reporting options](#), and the campus resources can be found on the [OIEC website](#).

Please know that faculty and graduate 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 their rights, support resources, and reporting options.

### **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. In this class, email me in advance and we will work out a mutually agreed-upon arrangement regarding make-up work.

See the [campus policy regarding religious observances](#) for full details.