



## **SYLLABUS**

### **Independent Research**

**Instructor: Maria Elena Barbero**

**Language of Instruction: English**

**Contact Hours\*: 20**

**Total Hours of Student Engagement (THSE) in all course activities\*: 120**

**Rosario, Argentina**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Independent Research Projects integrate theory and practice through planned, supervised field research experience. A key component of a student's academic development is the ability to apply what is learned in the classroom to research conducted in the world around them. This course offers students individualized, applied learning opportunities to explore and clarify career goals, apply theory, acquire new skills, gain experience, further investigate topics of interest, and improve Spanish language proficiency. Each student will be assisted in developing individualized learning goals that serve as the specific learning objectives for this course. Before departing from the United States, students will outline a research plan that supports their learning goals. As a result, students who achieve their learning goals acquire a set of transferable skills and real-world experience that prepares them for academic positions, graduate school, fellowships, or further academic study.

### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

Instructional Goals will vary slightly depending on the content of the individual Research experience. Student learning objectives include:

- Assess achievement of individualized learning goals through task completion and faculty advisor feedback.
- Articulate achievement of learning goals clearly and concisely in the form of a final Research paper and Research reflection report (see below for more details).

### **PRE-RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS**

All students will complete and sign an INTL 401 Research Application and Contract prior to departure from the United States. This contract will serve as the individual syllabus for the course. The details of the Research Application and Contract will be determined jointly by the student and the faculty supervisor.

### **RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS**

During the course of the Research each student is required to communicate at least twice a week (including at least one in-person meeting) with the faculty supervisor. The student is expected to discuss the ongoing challenges and benefits of the research project, including

how it relates to relevant course material and future academic or professional goals. Students are also expected to discuss any and all limitations experienced during the course of the research.

### **POST RESEARCH REQUIREMENTS:**

Upon completion of all Research requirements, students must submit a final research paper (12-20 pages) to the faculty advisor within 1 week after the end of the program.. The specific details of the final research paper will vary depending on the topic and type of research completed.

Upon return to the United States, students must submit a Research Reflection report to their faculty advisor.

The Research Reflection report (3-5 pages) must contain the following information:

1. A description of the student's specific research activities, including hours worked, individuals interviewed, and organizations or related related entities the student accessed to complete the research (if applicable)
2. An explanation of how your academic major and study abroad experience prepared you for this research, and how any other INTL or UO courses helped in preparation for this experience.
3. Reflections on the experience regarding what you learned from this Research and how you anticipate this Research will contribute to your future goals and future career.

### **METHOD OF EVALUATION (GRADING)**

Independent Research credits will be graded or Pass / No Pass. All students who satisfy the requirements listed below will receive a Passing grade (P). For students who choose to have their Research credits graded, the evaluation will be as follows:

Attendance and Participation (meeting with Faculty):	20%
Research Paper:	70%*
Research Reflection Report:	10%*

\*The reflection report and the research paper must be submitted no later than 5pm (PST) on September 09, 2017. Early submissions are encouraged. All assignments must be submitted electronically (via email to faculty).