

POLS 3917 Research Internship

Saint Louis University-Madrid Campus

Division: Business and Social Sciences

Course name: Research Internship

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Course Code: POLS-3917

Prerequisites: Director approval and all requirements detailed below.

Credit Hours: 3

Course Description

The Research Internship offers students a valuable learning experience where they can apply their classroom knowledge to library research and develop a comprehensive written project. This project, which spans one semester, involves conducting extensive research, citing relevant sources, and creating a bibliography. It is an opportunity for Junior and/or Senior students to showcase their acquired skills and knowledge from the past three years while exploring a self-defined topic in-depth.

to your project

reports with your project director

Course Credit

POLS 3917 is a three-credit course that counts as one of the POLS electives.

Grading: The work will be supervised and monitored by the Faculty Member that acts as Primary Advisor. The final grade for this course is A-F and will be determined as follows:

10% Project Proposal (1,500-2,000 words)

10% Bi-monthly reflection on the research process

80% Final Project (10,000-12,000 words)

Note: An extra-credit can be given for exceptional student performance such as innovating methodology, thorough research, original key ideas, etc.

E-mail

Campus and course announcements will often be handled by e-mail. Students should check their e-mail regularly.

Requirements for this course

progress

Submission of a project proposal

Submission of a bi-monthly reflection on the research process

Submission of the final project by the end of the internship.

Clarification on assessment

(Dates and deadlines will be agreed upon between the student and his supervisor).

Project proposal (10%): the proposal project must include between three and five pages plus bibliography. It must mention a topic, the reasons for this choice, a research question, a provisional structure for the demonstration, some of the sources that are meant to be referred to and used, as well as a timeline for the work.

Additional categories may apply depending on the methodology that the Faculty Supervisor suggests, such as including a literature review or a note on methodology for example.

Extended written project (80%): The written project is expected to be around 10,000-12,000 words, plus bibliography and annexes. It needs to include the draft of the paper ahead of its finalization, and, if possible, to present the conclusions. The student is meant to also put forward the points that she/he is finding difficulties with, and to discuss them with the supervisor.

Do not forget that quality is the critical factor here! Further advice on the style of presentation for the final project follows at the end of this syllabus.

Alongside the final project, you need to submit a *bi-monthly reflection on the research* (10%). Please use this assignment to reflect critically on how are you achieving the goals and timeline set out in the proposal? What changes has the project undergone in the process of research?

Project director selection

The candidate will select a director from among the Political Science Department Faculty. The director will guide students through this process, but in order for this to happen effectively, it is very important that students meet with faculty regularly. Students should be ready to meet **at least** once a month with the project director. Students will take the responsibility for organizing these meetings, as well as meetings with the other faculty who form the project committee.

The responsibilities of the director are:

- To consult with the student about interests and possible topics;

- To help the student select an appropriate topic;

- To advise the student on selection of a project committee and to call for meetings of the committee;

- To meet with the student regularly throughout the semester, to encourage and guide the student in research and in formulating ideas;

- To help the student build a methodology based on both intellectual references and other

- To respo

Guidelines for the Student Self-evaluation Process

Step 1: Summarizing the process

Re-read your initial proposal.

Briefly restate or summarize the goals and intention of your project as stated in the proposal;

Describe and discuss about what modifications, new directions and insights you have had during the semester. How has your topic/focus changed and/or stayed the same.

Where is your thinking on your topic at now?

Step 2: Discussing relevant/useful sources.

Discuss in detail the most important works (texts, artwork, music, other sources) and their impact on your thinking during this past semester

Think of additional sources and/or references that could be helpful for your work (experts to

Step 3: Describe what you have accomplished so far.

Reflect on your process. Did your reading, writing, and work progress as you had expected?

What went differently?

Are you where you had hoped or expected to be at this point? What has helped you progress, what has hindered your progress?

d planned

for yourself for the semester and how well you have been able to follow it.

Step 4: Planning for next steps.

write a plan for your next steps.

Think about what type of work schedule has worked (or failed to work) for you this past semester, and how you plan to accomplish your work in the coming semester.

Develop a schedule (e.g., time commitments) for the coming semester.

Style Requirement for the Extended Written Project

Table of Contents

The table of contents should clearly illustrate how the project is organized. It may be brief or elaborate, but it must correspond exactly to the headings and the subheadings included in the text. A list of tables and figures may be included on a separate page following the table of contents.

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Your instructor will review these matters during the first weeks of the term. Please direct questions about any facet of academic integrity to the instructor, the chair of the department of your academic program or the Academic Dean of the Madrid Campus.

Diversity and Inclusion: Saint Louis University is committed to fostering a positive, inclusive and welcoming learning and working environment. SLU-Madrid's policies prohibit discrimination based on race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, pregnancy, age, disability, physical appearance, financial or socio-economic status, immigration status, parental or marital status, veteran status or any other protected classification of identity. Discrimination includes any form of unequal treatment such as denial of opportunities, harassment, and violence. Sex-based violence includes rape, sexual assault, unwanted touching, stalking, dating/interpersonal violence, and sexual exploitation.