

**International Studies**  
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**International Studies INTL-I 400 Capstone Project**  
Instructions for the Capstone Mentor

**Overview**

The International Studies major draws on almost every department in the College of Arts and Sciences to provide students with an understanding of the international arena. Because of the vastness of international topics, students focus on both a thematic and regional concentration. In the senior year, students write a thesis that integrates these two concentrations. For example, a student focusing on the theme Human Rights and Social Movements and region Latin America might combine the two to focus on the issue of street children in Brazil.

**Examples of past thesis titles include:**

- Structural Adjustment Programs and Rural Livelihoods in Global Senegal
- The Sounds of the Gaita: A Call Toward Nationalism and Celtic Identity in Galicia
- A French Connection: The Emphasis on Culture in Film Adaptation

**Responsibilities of the Capstone Mentor**

Because the student will be attending a weekly class with an instructor and in-depth peer critique, a Capstone mentorship does not require the same level of engagement as an independent study. While we welcome and value the mentor who goes over and beyond requirements, extensive supervision is unnecessary. Mentors provide guidance to students. Grades are assigned by the I400 course instructor.

- The mentor has some expertise related to the student's proposed thesis topic.
- The mentor meets with the student at least three times. Mentors email International Studies at [intl@indiana.edu](mailto:intl@indiana.edu) to confirm that each of these meetings occurred.
- At the first meeting, the mentor reviews the student's topic statement (approximately the second week of class).
- At the second meeting, the mentor reviews the student's bibliography (approximately the fourth week of classes)
- The mentor reads the student's full rough draft and then offer suggestions at a third meeting (approximately the ninth week of classes).

**Responsibilities of the Student**

- The student provides a topic statement that integrates the thematic and regional concentrations, and has a reasonable motivation.
- The student comes prepared to meetings and provides the mentor with a reasonable amount of time to review the materials before meeting.
- Student makes arrangements with the mentor to review the problem statement, bibliography and rough draft at a time convenient to the mentor, but within the confines of the class deadlines.

The International Studies Program could not be successful without you. Your service as a mentor is valued.