Junior Honors Tutorial in Leadership Studies  
LDST 399

Spring 2011  
Course Information

Instructor: Dr. Douglas A. Hicks  
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Office hours: Wednesday, 3:00 – 4:30 p.m.  
and by appointment

Meeting time: Wednesday, 1:30-2:45 p.m.  
and location: Jepson Hall 106

Statement of the Tutorial’s Purpose

The University of Richmond Undergraduate Course Catalog includes the following information about completing Honors in Leadership Studies. The sections relevant to this tutorial have been placed in bold.

Honors in Leadership Studies

The Jepson School Faculty offers a track by which students with a proven record of intellectual initiative and scholarly drive can earn honors in leadership studies. The faculty invites interested students to apply for the Honors track. The deadline for this application is October 1 of the student’s junior year. To qualify, a student must be a Leadership Studies major, hold at least a 3.30 cumulative GPA and at least a 3.30 Leadership Studies GPA, and have earned a B or higher in at least four Leadership Studies courses. The application form is available for qualified juniors from the Jepson School Associate Dean’s office.

Once accepted to the honors track, in order to receive honors in leadership studies a student must:

- **Enroll in Leadership Studies 399 Junior Honors Tutorial for spring semester of junior year.** (Students planning to study abroad during this semester may make alternate arrangements with the associate dean for Academic Affairs and relevant faculty member.)
- **Submit a five-page proposal and preliminary bibliography to be accepted by the course instructor and a Jepson faculty thesis advisor.**
- Enroll in Leadership Studies 497 and 498, Senior Honors Thesis I and II, during senior year.
- Successfully present one chapter (including full literature review), bibliography and chapter-by-chapter outline of thesis to the student’s committee by the last day of classes in the fall semester of senior year.
• Successfully defend thesis before the student’s committee by the last day of classes in the spring semester of senior year.
• Complete undergraduate program with at least a 3.30 cumulative GPA and at least a 3.30 Leadership Studies GPA.

The student in the Honors track must complete all aspects of the standard Jepson curriculum. Leadership Studies 497 and 498 can count for a maximum of one unit of advanced course credit.

General Approach to the Semester’s Work

Toward the end of preparing each student to complete her or his five-page proposal and preliminary bibliography, students will read and analyze texts that relate to possible Honors thesis topics. During the semester, students and instructor will read articles and chapters in common, in order to examine and discuss a text’s structure, methodology, construction of argument, documentation, etc. Later in the semester, students and instructor will read drafts of students’ ideas and, ultimately, their proposals. During the semester, students are strongly encouraged to meet with professors in the Jepson School of Leadership Studies (and from other schools) to discuss ideas for their thesis and to find a likely thesis advisor from among the Jepson faculty.

Students are responsible for meeting all agreed-upon deadlines for writing and other assignments of the course. Note that the five-page proposal and preliminary bibliography deadline is set for the last day of classes (and not reading period), and thus these materials must be turned in to the instructor by Friday, April 22, at 5:00 p.m.

The Honor System

The Jepson School supports and adheres to the provisions of the Honor System as sanctioned by the School of Arts and Sciences. Every piece of written work in this course must have the word, “Pledged,” along with the student’s signature, signifying the following: “I pledge that I have neither given nor received unauthorized assistance during the completion of this work.” Papers sent via email will be assumed to carry (implicitly) the student’s Honor Pledge and signature.

Course Text

Students should order the following text for this Tutorial and for writing the Senior Honors Thesis:


This book is also available in e-book format via the University Libraries homepage, and one paper copy is in Boatwright Memorial Library. Copies are readily available for purchase new or used from online retailers.
Course Requirements

Your course grade will be determined by performance on the following course requirements:

- **Class Participation:** You are expected to attend all class meetings, arrive on time, and fully engage in discussions. The development and cultivation of research ideas is greatly aided by peer feedback. **25%**

- **Short Writing Assignments:** A number of writing assignments designed to help you develop your research ideas and thesis proposal will be administered throughout the semester. **25%**

- **Research Proposal:** The primary end-product of this course is a well-developed research proposal for your senior thesis. The proposal will include problem statement and justification, initial literature review, definitions, research questions and/or hypotheses, and description of specific methods of inquiry. **50%**