Junior Honors Tutorial in Leadership Studies  
LDST 399  
Spring 2014  
Course Information

Instructor: Dr. George R. Goethals  
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Phone: 287-6354  
Office hours: Thursday, 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.  
and by appointment

Meeting time: Thursdays, 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.  
and location: Jepson Hall 108

Introduction

The purpose of this course is to prepare you for the Jepson School’s Honors Thesis track. Our goal for the end of the semester is to have you write a five-page proposal and identify an honors thesis adviser as explained in the excerpts below from the University of Richmond Undergraduate Course Catalog. The excerpts include 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 Plan for the Semester’s Work**

Toward the goal of preparing each student to complete her or his five-page proposal and preliminary bibliography, we will consider parts of Charles Lipson’s book *How to Write a BA Thesis: A Practical Guide from Your First Ideas to Your Finished Paper*. It is available for purchase in the Bookstore. In addition, each student will research books or articles related to her or his possible Honors thesis topic, as we plan together. During the semester, we will consider together a thesis’ structure, methodology, construction of argument, documentation, etc. Later in the semester, students will read each other’s drafts of their emerging ideas and, ultimately, their proposals. The faculty as a whole encourages you to meet with possible advisors during the semester to discuss ideas and possible collaboration.

The five-page proposal and preliminary bibliography are both due on the last day of classes, **Friday, April 25, at 5:00 p.m.**

**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:** Starting Friday January 24 and through the remainder of the first part of the semester (up to Spring Break) please send me a one page email (200-300 words) each Friday by 5:00 PM summarizing and commenting on briefly what we read or discussed in class that week. A number of writing assignments designed to help you develop your research ideas and thesis proposal will be given in the second part of 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%**

A schedule of classes and assignments follows, subject to change as the course progresses.

January 14  Overview of Junior Tutorial and the Senior Honors Thesis
January 21  The Thesis Experience: Last Year’s Honors Tutorial Veterans
Read faculty bios at http://jepson.richmond.edu/faculty/bios/index.html

January 28  Library research and resources: Ms. Lucretia McCulley
Read Lipson, “How to Read…,” chapters 1 & 2

February 4  Research spotlight: Dr. Chris von Rueden
Read Lipson, chapters 3 & 4

February 11  Research spotlight: Dr. Kristin Bezio
Read Lipson, chapters 5 & 7

February 18  Research spotlight: Dr. Thad Williamson

February 25  Research spotlight: Dr. Don Forsyth

March 4  Research spotlight: Dr. Crystal Hoyt

SPRING BREAK  March 7 - 17

March 18  Protecting Human Research Participants: Dr. Kirk Jonas and the Institutional Review Board

March 25  Research spotlight: Dr. Al Goethals

April 1  Individual meetings: Preliminary Drafts due Friday, April 5

April 8  Discussion of Preliminary Drafts

April 15  Individual meetings

April 22  Wrap-up

Friday, April 25, 5:00 p.m.  Final Proposal Due
Awarding of Credit

To be successful in this course, a student should expect to devote 10-14 hours each week, including class time and time spent on course-related activities.

http://registrar.richmond.edu/services/policies/academic-credit.html

Disability Accommodations

Students with a Disability Accommodation Notice should contact their instructors as early in the semester as possible to discuss arrangements for completing course assignments and exams.

http://studentdevelopment.richmond.edu/disability-services/policies.html

Honor System

The Jepson School supports the provisions of the Honor System. The shortened version of the honor pledge is: “I pledge that I have neither received nor given unauthorized assistance during the completion of this work.”

http://studentdevelopment.richmond.edu/honor/

Religious Observance

Students should notify their instructors within the first two weeks of classes if they will need accommodations for religious observance.

http://registrar.richmond.edu/planning/religiousobs.html