

Elon College and Honors Fellows and the International and Global Studies Major

The Process of Matching Students with Mentors:

The international and global studies studies (IGS) advisory committee recognizes that a crucial component of a successful Elon College Fellows or Elon Honors Fellows Thesis comes at the beginning of the process, in the identification of a faculty mentor. In this process, it is important that both students and faculty enter the mentoring relationship with a full understanding of their mutual rights and responsibilities. Students should be fully aware of which faculty members are available to serve as mentors, and what kinds of theses those faculty members feel competent to direct. Faculty members, in turn, should know something about the students interested in working with them on the thesis and why they are drawn to their topics.

Students are encouraged to meet with the coordinator of the IGS major to discuss the matching of students with mentors. This meeting should take place as soon as the student declares international studies as a major. This is especially important because the major is interdisciplinary in scope, requires a semester study abroad and foreign language competency.

1. The Fellows Research and the International Studies Senior Seminar:

We agree that four semester hours of Fellows Thesis research will count as the senior seminar requirement for IGS majors (IGS 461), *provided that the thesis has an international and/or global focus*. It is recommended that the topic be related to the student's regional concentration. To ensure that the topic is acceptable it should be approved at the outset by the coordinator of international studies. Typically, this approval will be sought in the **Fall of the Junior year**.

NOTE: If a student has a double major, the research can only substitute for the International and Global Studies senior seminar if it does NOT count as the senior seminar of the student's other major. Thus, no double counting.

2. What Constitutes Acceptable Thesis Work in International and Global Studies?

We recognize that there should be flexibility in the length of the research paper, as length does not automatically equate with quality, but there is a consensus that an acceptable Fellows Thesis should have a minimum length of approximately 30 pages and **needs to include at least three foreign language sources that have been translated by the student and included in the bibliography**. The Fellows Thesis must be original work that adheres to disciplinary expectations regarding sources and citation, and in which the writing is of high quality. A presentation of the research should be made before an appropriate audience, such as SURF.

3. The International and Global Studies Senior Evaluation:

Upon completion of the Fellows Thesis, the faculty mentor's approval that the thesis meets the above requirements of items 1 and 2 will be accepted by the IGS coordinator as meeting the requirements for the international and global studies senior evaluation. Elon College Fellows or Honors Fellows who are IGS majors and do not meet the above conditions or do not complete the Fellows Program must take the IGS senior seminar to graduate.

Procedures:

In order to apply for the exemption, the ECF student and mentor should complete the following information directly onto this form, save it as a Word document according to: student last name_mentor last name_date of submission and email to IGS coordinator Safia Swimelar (sswimelar@elon.edu) and IGS associate coordinator Baris Kesgin (bkesgin@elon.edu). The mentor and student will receive the form back with the coordinator's approval (if granted). When the ECF thesis has been successfully completed, the ECF mentor should sign their name again at the bottom to indicate completeness and email back to both IGS coordinators. Once this has been completed, IGS coordinator will send approval to the Registrar.

Student Fellow's Name

Year of Expected Graduation: _____

Faculty Mentor's Name and Dept: _____

Course Prefix/Number being used for undergraduate research hours (e.g. POL 499...) _____

Number of Total Research Hours student will have completed by time of graduation: _____

Proposed Thesis Research--(e.g. Abstract) (Make sure to note if not clear how project fulfill's above requirements).

Faculty Mentor's Initial Approval _____

Date _____

International and Global Studies Coordinator's Initial Approval _____

Date _____

Faculty Mentor's Final Approval that Fellows Thesis meets IGS Requirements

Date _____