



CIEE Seville, Spain

Course name:	Independent Research
Course number:	INDR 3993 CSCS
Programs offering course:	Advanced Liberal Arts, Communication, New Media, Journalism -Spanish, Business Studies, Liberal Arts
Study Abroad Track:	All Academic Tracks
Language of instruction:	Spanish
U.S. semester credits:	3/ 4.5 Quarter Hours
Contact hours:	45 hours (Faculty Adviser Meetings 15 hours)
Term:	Spring 2019

Course Description

Directed Independent Research is for qualified students who have demonstrated academic rigor and curiosity towards a particular research topic. Independent research topics will be approved by CIEE Seville Director and home institution and must reflect a topic that is relevant to Seville or Spain. To be accepted into this course, students must submit a structured proposal with topic of exploration, significance of research topic as it relates to Seville/ Spain, methodology, a literature review, and a schedule of research milestones. Upon research completion, students will present their findings to a panel of academics.

Learning Objectives

At the end of the seminar the student will be able to:

- Conduct ethical research
- Analyze primary and secondary source materials
- Extrapolate relevant content
- Make contributions to current research
- Exchange ideas with professionals in prospective fields
- Develop a scholarly research paper with a defensible argument, supported by evidence and accurate citations.
- Suggest additional research to be conducted in prospective fields

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

Students will meet with faculty advisors frequently a total of 15 hours. This will ensure academic integrity and direction throughout the research process. Additionally, students will conduct approximately 100 independent research hours. Students may choose to do field research through service learning.

Assessment and Final Grade

1.	Faculty Advisor Meetings:	20%
2.	Research Paper	40%
3.	Annotated Bibliography	10%



4.	Final Presentation	20%
5.	Research Field Notes	10%
	TOTAL:	100%

Course Requirements

Faculty Advisor Meetings

During the meetings, students receive feedback and advisement on their projects. Students will collaborate with faculty to schedule appropriate meeting times. To structure projects a research schedule with project milestones will be outlined at the first meeting.

Research Paper

Students will conclude the term with a research paper that evidences their proposed project. In addition, the paper will include a literature review, a methodology and suggestions for future research. The word limit for this paper must be between 3000 and 6000 words, but the exact scope and scale will be agreed to by student and faculty mentor.

Annotated Bibliography

The annotated bibliography must be between 750 and 1600 words.

Final Presentation

Students will present their findings in a presentation of 15 minutes, excluding questions. Each presentation will address the main question or impetus for the project, milestones and final results. A panel of academics will provide feedback.

Research Field Notes

To better organize, each student will keep a well-documented journal of their notes and findings. This will be submitted to faculty advisors and will be graded on organization and progress of research

Attendance Policy

Students are not allowed to miss class for unjustified reasons. For each unexcused absence, the participation portion of the grade will be lowered. Hence, it will be very difficult to receive a 100 in the class. Please keep this in mind. If a student misses class twice without a valid excuse (a note from a physician in the event of an illness), then the professor will automatically lower the final grade by 5 points (on a 100-point scale) for each class missed thereafter. Students with 6 or more absences will fail the course.

Students should arrive to class on time. Arriving more than 15 minutes late for a class will count as an unexcused absence. Please note that an excused absence is one that is accompanied by a doctor's note: signed stamped and dated. Travelling and/or travel delays are not considered valid reasons for missing class.

* Notes from a physician will only be valid and admitted by the Program Manager if the doctor confirms that the visit could not have been arranged at another time, or that the student was too ill to attend class that day.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Research Proposal and Annotated Bibliography
CITI (Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative)
Components



Week 2	Weekly Critical Question
	Research Milestones
	Field Notes
Week 3	Methodology and Literature I
	Field Notes
	Weekly Critical Question
Week 4	Methodology and Literature II
	Field Notes
	Weekly Critical Question
Week 5	Methodology and Literature III
	Field Notes
	Weekly Critical Question
Week 6	Field Notes
	Weekly Critical Question
Week 7	Research Status I
	Weekly Critical Question
Week 8	Research Status II
	Weekly Critical Question
Week 9	Research Status II
	Weekly Critical Question
Week 10	Findings I
Week 11	Findings II
	Final Presentation
	Submit Final Paper
Week 12	Outcomes Discussion – Self-evaluation
	Possibilities for future research

Readings

Materials will be determined in conversation between student and faculty member. During the first week, the student will propose an initial list of materials to investigate; faculty mentor will amend and approve. Readings will further develop throughout the term.