

POLI 497 (1 credit)/498 (3 credits) Politics and International Relations Major Honors

Student Name:

Semesters/Terms to complete:

Requested Faculty advisor:

Sarah Myers, Librarian Liaison

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Required Text:

Lipson, Charles. 2018. *How to Write a BA Thesis* (2nd ed.). Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press.

Recommended Text and Resources:

Schmidt, Diane. 2018. *Writing in Political Science* (5th ed.). Philadelphia, PA: Routledge. This book will also be available on reserve. Majors should have purchased and retained the text from earlier classes.

A Writer's Reference (Ebook on Canvas): Students have access to Writer's Reference, which was introduced in FYS and CCC, during their undergraduate education at Messiah. As such, this resource remains available for you for more general writing considerations, including grammar.

Academic Integrity:

For this project, students need to consult academically appropriate sources. ALL information, whether paraphrased or directly quoted, MUST be documented, including locators for any citations that do not solely pertain to the larger thesis and conclusions of the source. Locator refers to various ways that the specific place of the quote, idea or evidence exists within the source. For paginated sources, locators are page numbers. Locators for non-paginated sources might include paragraph numbers, section headings (longer documents), time stamps (audio, video), etc.

Furthermore, part of academic scholarship is dialoguing with other scholars. As such, when we build on or challenge ideas/ concepts discussed in other works we must document those works to provide credibility to the argument. Students must include both in-text citations as well as a source list. Please consult Schmidt and the appropriate style manual if you are unsure of the appropriate documentation style. More information appears in the "Formatting and Style" section of this syllabus.

Beyond plagiarism, other academic integrity concerns exist. Fabrication, which includes the manufacture of inauthentic content, or submitting work created by others for the student, whether paid or uncompensated, also reflect a lack of original academic product. Due to the nature of the project, violations of academic integrity will fail the project and may carry additional institutional consequences. For more information on academic integrity, including the policy for processing violations, please [see the academic policies handbook](#).

Formatting and Citation Style

Students should determine which style they will follow in consultation with their project advisor based on the area of field and type of research that they will complete. The *Chicago Manual of Style* is most commonly used in political science, outside of the official [American Political Science Association \(APSA\) format](#). The full CMS is available via [Murray Library](#) (with Messiah login when accessing from off-campus) and this [official quick cite](#) guide includes the in-text and source list entries for the author-date (parenthetical) and notes-bibliography (footnote/endnote) formats. The American Psychological Association (APA) format, a parenthetical-only format, is also used for some publications related to the field and topics with interdisciplinary implications. Murray Library provides several resources in [this library guide](#), including access to the full manual. Schmidt includes some of the more common source types in the current edition.

Students may use any number of citation manager software options, including [the versions recommended by Murray Library](#). However, students should note that the software management does not assist with in-text placement or, for parenthetical form, the in-text format. In addition, students should review the software results for accuracy. Suggested formats that appear in journal collections or elsewhere online may also need review with attention to style

format. In addition to consulting with the project advisor, students may also request help from the reference librarian on duty.

Before beginning the proposal process, please review the policy and timeline for the Politics and International Relations major [here](#).

- I. Proposal
 - a. READ: Lipson Sections I, II, VI (19-21)
 - b. Review a few completed POLI projects, available via Murray Library’s open repository, MOSAIC. Note that these exemplars are not exhaustive of the variety of approaches and topics feasible within the field of political science.
 - i. [Privacy in the 21st Century: DNA and the Fourth Amendment](#) by Julia Clements
 - ii. [A Cautionary Tale of Two Extremes Religion and Politics in the U.S. and the U.K.](#) by Alejandro Garcia Davalos
 - iii. [The Issue of Funds: A Discussion on the Structure and Importance of School Financing in Pennsylvania](#) by Sarah Long
 - iv. [Focusing on Femicide: Democracy through the Lens of Women's Rights in Guatemala](#) by Jill Seibert
 - c. Attach a 2-3 page prospectus that provides:
 - i. The main research question, its significance, planned methodological approach and needed resources
 - ii. Initial reading list of 10-15 academic sources.
 - d. Using the upcoming semester calendar, propose a timeline to meet with the project advisor during the first semester and deliverables to submit for each meeting deadline. Deliverables due at end of the semester include an annotated bibliography/references and an essay map.
 - i. Annotated source lists, titled “bibliography” or “references” based on the style manual used, provide not only a style-consistent reference entry but also a supporting response that both summarizes the key elements of the source and assesses its particular relevance to the project. *Writer’s Reference* (R3) and Schmidt (p. 266) provide examples for the substance; the appropriate style manner provides the citation format information.
 - ii. Essay maps articulate the framework of the integrated argument and illustrate specifically the key arguments and *specific* evidence synthesized from the working course list.
 - e. Read this resource on [the importance of breaking down tasks](#).
 - f. Recommended: Select and [complete a project management template](#). Be sure to plan for completing sections III, IV, V and VI (22) at appropriate times in the research and writing process. Students may also find it helpful to integrate Schmidt Chapters 1-8 into your planning schedule.
 - g. Enter the dates and tasks/ deliverables for the first term of work below.
 - h. Students will propose a separate calendar for POLI 498 (3 credits), which will include a public presentation, the format of which the student may finalize with their advisor. Students should finalize timing at the start of the second term, to allow for any necessary reservations for the presentation.

Calendar

Week	Date	Task/Deliverable
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		

10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
Note: End-of-semester deliverables are due no later than the last week of classes.		