

**WRITING THE
GLOBAL STUDIES
SENIOR THESIS**

Welcome Seniors

Global Studies majors are required to write a **senior thesis**. It is intended to be quite substantial in its scholarship— between 35-50 pages in length of text, double spaced (in addition to title page, bibliography, appendices, etc.). During Fall of senior year, Global Studies majors will take a topical seminar and research seminar, followed by two quarters of independent research, culminating in the production of the senior thesis.

This brochure serves as a quick reference guide of the requirements for completing the thesis; be sure to consult the department’s website under the “Senior Thesis” tab for the most complete and updated information.



Resources

Questions about:	Resource	Contact Info
Enrollment Honors Credit Senior Thesis Award	Global Studies Advising Office, 10357 Bucnhe Hall (10th floor)	Tel: 310-825-5187 Email: jdps@international.ucla.edu
Paper Content	Faculty Advisor	See Page xxyy
Research Assistance	Subject Librarian, Joseph Yue	Tel: 310-825-6151 Email: jo-yue@library.ucla.edu

Other Resources for Help with Research and Writing:

- Powell Library Inquiry Labs (220 Powell Library)
- CPO Writing Success Program (105 Student Activities Center)
- Undergraduate Writing Center (Multiple locations, visit <http://www.wp.ucla.edu/index.php/home> for more info)
- Undergraduate Research Center (A334 Murphy Hall) <http://www.ugeducation.ucla.edu/urhass/>

To Access Sample Papers:

You can also access outstanding theses projects submitted by past students by visiting the department website, clicking on “Senior Thesis” and scrolling down and clicking on the links below “Outstanding Global Studies Theses”

Senior Yr Timeline

FALL - Research Topic Selection and Proposal Development

- TOPIC:** Select research topic and **Develop** preliminary but **detailed**
- Discuss** proposal with Gbl St 194 Instructor by or before
- ADVISOR:** **Identify and meet** with potential faculty advisors whose research interests match your own
- Secure** a Faculty Advisor (**must be in residence at UCLA for Winter and Spring**) and have him/her sign *Faculty Advisor Re-*
- ENROLL:** Submit *Course Contract* to enroll in Gbl St 199A in Winter AND Signed Faculty Advisor Responsibilities sheet to your Global Studies counselor no later than Week 2 of Winter.

•WINTER - Research Planning and Data Collection

- ADVISOR:** **Meet** with faculty advisor weekly to refine research and review progress
- OUTLINE:** Develop Outline of thesis (**10-15 pages including brief introduction, major arguments and discussion of evidence/data**)
- ENROLL:** Submit signed *Contract Course petition* to enroll in Gbl St 199B in Spring AND submit Outline of the thesis online no later than Week 2 of Spring.

Senior Yr Timeline

•SPRING - Research Planning and Data Collection

- ADVISOR:** **Continue** working with the Faculty Advisor to write thesis
- Confirm** preferred formatting style (MLA, APA, Chicano) of final version
- THESIS:** **Submit** final hard copy of senior thesis to Faculty Advisor for grading (**35-50 pages of text excluding title page, bibliography, appendices etc.**) by or before **Friday of Week 10** (*confirm dead line with Faculty Advisor*)
- OPTIONAL:** **Secure** signatures from *Faculty Advisor*. *No need for Chair's*
- Post thesis on Global Studies Alumni & Current Student Directory website.
- Apply** for Senior Thesis Award
- NOTE:** **Final thesis must be submitted to instructor only. The advising office doesn't collect final theses.**

Finding A Mentor

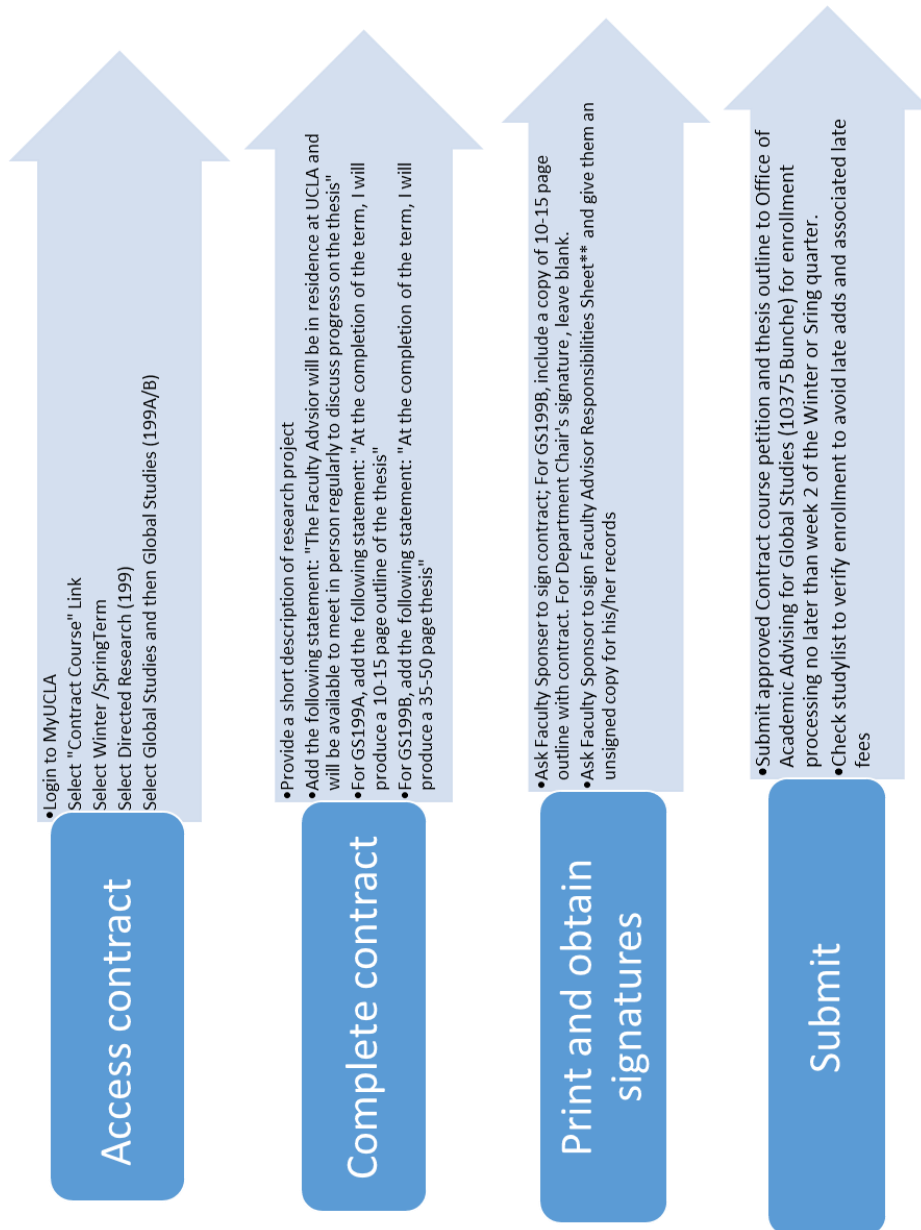
Tips:

1. Your mentor does NOT need to teach Global Studies! They can come from any department.
 2. It is best to approach a professor you have worked with before, but not necessary.
- **Narrow down your topic to issue and place.** Think about world issues you are interested in, places you have visited, family background.
 - **Use the UCLA department homepages to find faculty that specializes on relevant subjects either thematically or regionally (or both).** For example, if you are interested in Public Health issues in West Africa, visit the Public Health and African Studies websites to find potential faculty mentors.
 - **Email the faculty you are interested in to request a meeting.** Be clear and respectful.
 - **For the meeting, be prepared to discuss what you want to research and why you want to work with them.** If they agree to work with you, fantastic, if not ask them be respectful of their decision but consider asking if they know anyone who would be a good fit for you and your project.

Interacting with Your Mentor

- **Be prepared** Be prompt, prepared, and maintaining a professional attitude. Be punctual, well-organized, ready to give a brief update on recent progress, and to propose an agenda for the conversation today. Schedule weekly meetings and expectations for the quarter on the first meeting.
- **Don't be afraid to ask** Your mentor wants to help you and yes, but they don't always know what you want if you don't come right out and say it!
- **Take notes** Keep a notebook and jot down ideas and insights during the session and in between sessions. Capture the commitments that you made to your mentor so that you will be able to follow-up appropriately.
- **Follow-up on agreements** If you've committed to take action, make sure that you do so. It is discouraging for the mentor if you have made commitments that you do not act upon. You can also help the mentor to keep his commitments by sending a brief thank you note after a session that also list any agreed upon actions from either of you.
- **Say "Thank you"!** Remember to say thank you and give appreciation for specific insights that have helped you. This information will let your mentor know more about what you value and how she is making a difference for you.

Creating The Contract



Awards & Honors

Global Studies Senior Thesis Award

Eligibility:

- Global Studies Majors who have completed their senior thesis (Glbl St 199B) during this academic year.
- The award is for \$500.00 and will be given to a Global Studies major who shows exceptional scholarship in the production of their senior thesis (Glbl St 199B).

*For more information about application instructions, visit the department website. Updated deadlines will be posted closer to the date.

Departmental Honors & Highest Honors

Any departmental honors designation will be automatically awarded upon graduation. No application is necessary.

To qualify for graduation with departmental honors, students must (1) complete all requirements for the major (2) have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.50 or better in upper division courses in the major and an overall GPA of 3.25 or better and (3) complete Glbl St 199B with a grade of A– or better on the resulting thesis.

To qualify for graduation with departmental highest honors, students must (1) complete all requirements for the major, (2) have a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or better in upper division courses in the major and an overall GPA of 3.50 or better, and (3) complete Glbl St 199B with a grade of A or better on the resulting thesis.

FAQs

ENROLLING:

How do I enroll in 199A and 199B?

You need to create a contract via my.ucla have it signed by your advisor and submit it to the Gbl St advising office no later than Week 1 of the quarter you are enrolling in. *Additional documents are also required, please see page XXX for more.

Can I enroll in 199A or 199B via UCLA extension?

Yes, for more detailed instructions on how to do so please email the Global Studies Advising Office. Note that there are college restrictions on Dual Enrollment and no more than 10 of the last units taken before graduating can be taken through extension.

FACULTY ADVISOR

Can my mentor be a lecturer or visitor instructor?

Yes, potential advisors can be selected from the *Global Studies Faculty Roster* (select the "Faculty" link from the Global Studies homepage) but other UCLA faculty members may be suitable, as long as they are willing to support the student's research interests.

Does my mentor have to be on campus during the quarters he/she will be guiding me?

Yes, faculty advisors must be in residence at UCLA, during the two-quarter Gbl St 199A/199B sequence (Winter and Spring Quarters).

FAQs

THESIS SUBMISSION

What is the deadline to submit my final thesis?

Unless otherwise specified by your faculty advisor, the last day to submit a final copy of the thesis is Friday of the 10th week of Spring Quarter. Your faculty advisor may be willing to accept a final copy during Finals Week, instead, so please do confirm the deadline with him/her. *Note that that the deadline for submitting the senior thesis for consideration for the Global Studies Senior Thesis Award is earlier than the above date. Refer to the Global Studies website for the deadline.

Where do I submit my final thesis?

Your faculty advisor will be responsible for assigning you a grade for Gbl St 199B, which will signify the completion of your thesis. As a courtesy, you should provide your faculty advisor with their own copy of your thesis if they would like one. After you have submitted a hard copy to your faculty advisor, you are highly encouraged to post your senior thesis on the Global Studies website, and you can do so via the Alumni & Current Student Directory, www.international.ucla.edu/idps/alumni/.