International Migration Studies Minor Thesis Guidelines
(I M Std 199)

General Information:

The International Migration Studies minor, designed for students seeking advanced work in the subject matter, culminates in a research thesis, which is expected to be completed by the end of the undergraduate academic career. Through the thesis, expected to be approximately 30 pages in length, students have the opportunity to design and conduct their own independent research on a particular topic of interest related to international migration under the guidance of a faculty advisor.

Course Information:

Credit for the thesis will be through I M Std 199 (Directed Individual Research in International Migration Studies), a one quarter contract course.

*International Migration Studies 199. Directed Individual Research in International Migration Studies (4)*


Prior to the start of the quarter the thesis will be written in, students will need to come up with a topic of their own interest for the thesis, which must be related to international migration. They will also need to secure a faculty member who will serve as their thesis advisor. Once the topic has been solidified and faculty advisor has been secured, students will then set up a contract on MyUCLA and carefully follow all directions to have the course added to their records (see Procedures for Enrollment in I M Std 199, below).

Throughout the quarter students are enrolled in I M Std 199, students will work closely with their faculty advisor, who will guide them through the various phases of the student’s research. Students should meet regularly with their faculty advisor throughout the quarter to ensure progression on the thesis. During the early part of the quarter, students may be asked to compile a literature review and come up with a preliminary outline of the thesis. They will then continue to work on the thesis throughout the quarter to clarify arguments, and perhaps produce a series of drafts of the thesis.

At the end of the quarter, students will be required to submit a completed thesis to their faculty advisor for final review. Note that the thesis is intended to be quite substantial in its scholarship—approximately 30 pages of text in length (not including title page, bibliography, appendices, etc.). Unless otherwise specified by your faculty advisor, the last day to submit a final copy of the thesis is Friday of the 10th week. Please be in close contact with your faculty advisor regarding any particular deadlines they may have. Your faculty advisor will be responsible for assigning you a grade for I M Std 199, which will signify the completion of your thesis.

Faculty Advisor:

After students have a research topic in mind, they must find a faculty member who will agree to serve as their thesis advisor, preferably someone whose research or teaching interests correspond with their research topic.

The faculty advisor may be selected from the members of the faculty administrative committee of the International Migration Studies Minor, from the list of affiliated faculty for the UCLA Center for the Study of International Migration, or any other faculty member who will be in residence during the quarter the thesis will be undertaken (i.e., not be on sabbatical at that time.) Students may also find information about faculty members and their research interests on the UCLA Experts directory.
Procedures for Enrollment in I M Std 199:

Once the faculty advisor has been secured, the next step is to set up the I M Std 199 contract via MyUCLA:

1. Log into MyUCLA
2. Select the Contract Courses link located under the “Classes” tab
3. Select “Submit a new contract”
4. Select the term you plan to complete the thesis
5. Select “Directed Research 199”
6. Select “International Migration Studies”
7. From there, you’ll be directed to fill out an online form for I M Std 199
8. Search for your Faculty Mentor by last name (their home department will show up next to their name)
9. For the course description field, briefly and clearly describe the international migration topic you will focus on for your thesis.
10. For the tangible evidence, state that you will submit a 30 page thesis
11. Print out contract and have your faculty mentor, as well as the Chair of International Migration Studies, sign the form.
12. Submit the signed form to the International Migration Studies Advising Office (either as a hard copy to 10389B Bunche Hall or as an email attachment to advising@international.ucla.edu) for processing. Once processed successfully, the I M Std 199 course will be on your study list.

Note that normal enrollment deadlines apply to I M Std 199. Students who attempt to submit their contract once the quarter begins may have to petition for a late add of the course, and pay any associated late fee.

Resources:

- Powell Library Inquiry Labs
- UCLA Library Databases
- UCLA Community Programs Office Writing Success Program
- UCLA Writing Programs Undergraduate Writing Center