DSS 796

Directed Research/Reading Seminar Guidelines

A Directed Research/Reading Seminar can be taken only if the programmed courses do not meet student requirements. A formal approval process is required in advance of student registration, as outlined below. The program must meet the rigors of in-class seminars and be approved by both a DSS professor and DSS Program Coordinator, in advance of student registration.

Student Responsibilities:

1. Find a DSS professor willing to oversee a Directed Research/Reading Seminar in the semester in question with the background and expertise in the area the student wishes to study. NOTE: Professors are limited to no more than two Directed Research/Reading Seminars each semester unless special circumstances require otherwise (per discussion with the Program Coordinator).

2. Student prepares a syllabus that provides written, oral and reading requirements to be accomplished during the semester. The syllabus must also outline the number of times the student and professor will meet during the semester (minimum of 5 formal meetings) and the size and scope of research papers to be written and presented. Two to three instruments for grading must be noted in the course syllabus.

3. Reading List: The assigned/agreed reading list must be comparable to that of regular seminar classes (approximately 14 or more readings, each of 100-150 pages per week).

4. Scope of written work: The research/writing requirement must likewise be equivalent to seminar classes. Professor and student may agree to several short papers or one assignment of approximately 25-30 pages.

5. The topic/issue for study must directly relate to matters of defense and security issues and be in line with the scope of the DSS graduate program.

6. The professor must agree to the student proposal/syllabus and submit to the Program Coordinator (currently Dr. John Rose) for approval.

7. Once approved by the Program Coordinator, the student may register for DSS 796, but not until all steps above are accomplished and approved.

8. Questions: contact the Program Coordinator (currently Dr. John Rose) or DSS Department Coordinator (Ms. Heather Merold).

9. Exceptions to the process outlined above must be directed through the DR Coordinator or DSS Department Head.