



Missouri State UNIVERSITY

School of Defense and Strategic Studies

DSS 796 Directed Research/Reading Seminar Guidelines

(Not to be used for completion of the non-thesis project.)

A Directed Research/Reading Seminar (DR) can be taken only if the programmed courses do not meet student's academic requirements. A formal approval process is required in advance of student registration as outlined below. The DR must meet the rigors of regular DSS seminars and be approved **prior to registration** by both the DR supervising professor and DR coordinator Dr. John Rose.

Guidelines:

1. Student obtains the commitment of a DSS professor with the background and expertise in the area the student wishes to study that is willing to supervise the DR. (**Note:** Professors are limited to no more than two DRs each semester unless special circumstances require otherwise (per discussion with the DSS Director)).
2. Student prepares a syllabus with input from the supervising professor 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 supervising 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. The supervising 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 strategic studies and be in line with the scope of the DSS graduate program.
6. **The supervising professor must approve the student's syllabus.** After approval, the student then submits the syllabus to Dr. Rose (JohnPRose@MissouriState.edu) for approval prior to the start of the semester (with a copy to the supervising professor on the email).
7. **Upon receipt of Dr. Rose's approval, student forwards the approval email to their academic advisor and requests Permission to register for DSS 796 Directed and Research.**
8. Exceptions to the process outlined above must be directed through DSS Director Dr. Christopher Ford.
9. Questions about the process outlined above should be directed to the DSS DR coordinator Dr. John Rose (JohnPRose@MissouriState.edu).