



CIEE Legon, Ghana

Course title:	Directed Independent Research
Course code:	INDR 3003 ACGH
Programs offering course:	Arts and Sciences
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. semester credits:	3
Contact hours:	120
Term:	Fall 2020

Course Description

Directed Independent Research is for qualified students who have demonstrated academic rigor and curiosity towards a particular research topic. Independent research topics will be approved by the CIEE Academic Coordinator and the home institution advisor, and must reflect a topic that is relevant to the location of studies. To be accepted into this course, students must submit a structured proposal with topic of exploration, significance of research topic as it relates to the local culture, methodology, a literature review, and a schedule of research milestones. Upon research completion, students will present their findings to a panel of academics.

Learning Objectives

By completing this course, students will:

- Conduct ethical research.
- Analyze primary and secondary source materials.
- Extrapolate relevant content.
- Make contributions to current research and exchange ideas with professionals in prospective fields.
- Develop a scholarly research paper with a defensible argument, supported by evidence and accurate citations.
- Suggest additional research to be conducted in prospective fields.

Course Prerequisites

None

Methods of Instruction

Students will meet with faculty advisors frequently, the total of these meetings comprising approximately 20 hours. This will ensure academic integrity and direction throughout the research process. Additionally, students will conduct approximately 100 independent research hours. This research might include studying primary and secondary sources, different types of textual analysis, interview with experts and other research activities.

N.B. Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, or local holidays. Final schedules will be included in the final syllabus provided to students on site.

Assessment and Final Grade

1.	Faculty Advisor Meetings	20%
2.	Research Paper	40%



3.	Annotated Bibliography	10%
4.	Final Presentation	20%
5.	Research Field Notes	10%
	TOTAL	100%

Course Requirements

Faculty Advisor Meetings

During the meetings, students receive feedback and advisement on their projects. Students will collaborate with faculty to schedule appropriate meeting times. To structure projects, a research schedule with project milestones will be outlined at the first meeting.

Research Paper

Students will conclude the term with a research paper that evidences their proposed project. In addition, the paper will include a literature review, a methodology and suggestions for future research. Exact scope and scale of the paper will be agreed to by student and faculty mentor.

Annotated Bibliography

Final Presentation

Students will present their findings in a presentation. Each presentation will address the main question or impetus for the project, milestones and final results. A panel of academics will provide feedback.

Research Field Notes

To better organize, each student will keep a well-documented journal of their notes and findings.

This will be submitted to faculty advisors and will be graded on organization and progress of research.

Attendance

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class Submit Research Proposal

Week 2

Class Take CITI (Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative)

Week 3

Class Submit Annotated Bibliography

Week 4

Class Discuss research methodology and note-taking techniques



Week 5

Class Weekly critical questions

Week 6

Class Discuss field notes and research status

Week 7

Class Weekly critical questions

Week 8

Class Discuss field notes and research status

Week 9

Class Weekly critical questions

Week 10

Class Discuss field notes

Week 11

Class Discuss findings

Week 12

Class Discuss academic presentation techniques

Week 13

Class Final Presentation

Week 14

Class Submit Final Paper

Course Materials

Readings

Materials will be determined in conversation between student and faculty member. During the first week, the student will propose an initial list of materials to investigate; faculty mentor will amend and approve. Readings will further develop throughout the term.