



CIEE Santiago, Dominican Republic

Course title:	Directed Independent Research
Course code:	INDR 3003 DRAS
Programs offering course:	Liberal Arts
Language of instruction:	English
U.S. semester credits:	3
Contact hours:	45
Term:	Fall 2020

Course Description

CIEE supports qualified students who wish to pursue an academically rigorous independent research project while abroad. In order to enroll, students must submit a research proposal including a clearly defined research topic, explanation of research plans, description of preparation in the planned area of study, list of resources, tentative outline of a final paper, and suggested schedule of progress. Students complete a total of 100-120 hours of research and meet regularly with an advisor to complete an academically rigorous, ethically sound, and culturally appropriate research project and final research paper.

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

Approval for participation in Directed Independent Research must be obtained from CIEE and the student's home institution prior to arrival on the program.

Methods of Instruction

Students will meet with faculty advisors frequently, the total of these meetings comprising approximately 15 hours. This will ensure academic integrity and direction throughout the research process. Additionally, students will conduct approximately 100 independent research hours. Students may choose to do field research through service learning.

Course schedule is subject to change due to study tours, excursions, and 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.

Each meeting student will discuss with faculty the advances and findings of the fieldwork and research assigned by the agenda

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.

Weekly Schedule

Week 1

Class Research Proposal and Annotated Bibliography Components

 Weekly Critical Question

Week 2

Class Research Milestones

 Field Notes

 Weekly Critical Question



Week 3

Class Methodology and Literature

Field Notes

Weekly Critical Question

First draft of the project and main findings will be discussed.

Week 4

Class Research Status

Weekly Critical Question Field Notes

Week 5

Class Findings

During this week, the student can ask the instructor for an extra meeting to discuss or elaborate key components and solve doubts about the research project if this is needed.

Week 6

Class Final Presentations

Final Presentation will be delivered two days before the last week of the program ends. Student will present his/her findings to members of the faculty and other students who are conducting similar research. Open discussion will be facilitated by the Academic Director.

Final Paper will be submitted on the last day of the program.

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.