PSCI 4190-4690 Undergraduate Research in Political Science  
One to six semester hours (FL/SP/SS)  
Course Description:  
This course enables students to engage in independent research on an issue/topic in political science. The issue/topic is selected by the student, with the advice and approval of the instructor prior to registration. The course may be repeated under a different issue/topic for credit.  
Prerequisite: Permission of instructor and either the Director of Political Science or the department chair.  

Justification: This course will provide undergraduate students with the opportunity to explore research in the field of political science, acquire additional writing skills, and be able to work in close collaboration with faculty. Additionally, this course is a better mechanism for students seeking independent study courses as it provides more flexibility in scheduling.

Student Learning Outcomes:  
At the completion of this course, the student will:  
1. examine a contemporary issue in the field of political science by reading scholarly literature in the field;  
2. provide critical and/or reflective assessment of scholarly literature, both orally and in writing;  
3. work independently toward the completion of a comprehensive research paper that demonstrates the ability to:  
   - synthesize information and concepts  
   - structure a review of literature using elements of good writing (e.g., clear knowledge of subject matter, logical organization and development of ideas, proper sentence structure, no grammatical errors, etc.),  
   - follow the guidelines of the American Political Science Association (APSA) style manual [Chicago inline citation style] or of the Chicago Manual of Style note/bibliography style [footnote/endnote style] as appropriate to the subject of the research.
Approvals:

Chair
Department Curriculum Committee

Chair
Department

Chair
College Curriculum Committee

Dean

04/2011

Signature

Date

James A Norris

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Thomas R. Mitchell

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