

Distinction in International Perspectives

Office of International Education

Prospectus

The Prospectus is the formal description of your Distinction Project. This form also includes a timeline for completion of the Project and establishes a protocol for setting the date of your Project Presentation. Be sure to prepare the Prospectus only after you have completed the Abstract form with your faculty advisor. Once you have prepared the Prospectus per the directions below, please submit the original signed copy to your advisor for final approval. At that time, you may complete the Project Timeline and Additional Goals section below with your advisor. Submit the original signed copy of this document and a hard copy of your Prospectus to the Director of International Education. Be sure to make and keep a copy of these forms for your records.

Format of Prospectus

The whole prospectus should be no longer than 5 double-spaced pages. It must include the following elements:

1.0 Working Project Title: Your title should reflect the intention and the scope of the project.

2.0 Body section:

2.1 In the first paragraph, you should introduce the topic to your reader and then present your thesis statement (it can just be a working thesis at this point);

2.3 In the second paragraph, you should briefly outline the significance of your project, explain what you hope to find, and list four or five of the central inquiries of your project. The central inquiries of your project are different from your thesis statement. Your thesis statement is the claim that you are making and that you will prove; the central inquiries are the main questions that led you to develop this project in the first place. They are questions that you will address tangentially in your project or that underpin the project itself. You can also think of this part as situating your project or contextualizing it.

2.4 In the third paragraph, you will briefly introduce the main primary and secondary sources that you will draw from in the project and explain why they are important. It helps to cluster books or articles together here, as you will not have a lot of space. This part may feel a little uncomfortable to write as you may not have read all of the documents that you are including as sources. This is okay; you just have to have skimmed them or read some of them to be able to determine if they will be useful to you.

3.0 Selected Bibliography: Your bibliography lists the sources you have consulted or plan to consult for your project. Select a citation format relevant to your discipline and follow it consistently across your writing.

Project Timeline

Project Prospectus due _____

*Rough draft of project due _____

*Final draft of project due _____

Project Presentation date (this may be a tentative date): _____

Student signature and date

Faculty Advisor signature and date

List here any additional goals and deadlines (these might include intermediate steps toward completing the project, such as creating powerpoint slides, handouts, additional units, etc):

_____ due _____

_____ due _____

_____ due _____

_____ due _____

*denotes optional deadlines