

Course Syllabus
LLDR 499—Senior Paper/Project

3 Credit hours
Online Learning

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Student preparation of a research paper under the direction of a faculty member. Includes instruction in research methods and styles and in critiquing written materials. Students eligible for graduation honors must complete a successful oral defense before a faculty committee.

Prerequisites: Senior standing

II. COURSE GOALS

- A. Experience an in-depth study of topics of interest in public policy, public administration, international affairs, economics, intellectual history, or philosophy.
- B. Develop an interest in informed reading, research, analysis, and discussion of contemporary political problems.
- C. Develop practical skills in research, writing, and critiquing to the end that they produce a substantive research paper—one that is well-researched, well-developed, and well-written.

III. STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES FOR THIS COURSE

A. Terminal Objectives

As a result of successfully completing this course, the student will be able to do the following:

- 1. Present his or her findings and views in a correct and straightforward literary style.
- 2. Through the written paper, and the optional oral defense, the student will demonstrate an ability to render reasonable judgments and critical evaluations of the works of professional political scientists.
- 3. Locate resource material on a specific political topic.
- 4. Written: Learn and utilize effective, accurate techniques of research of research. The measurement standards shall be those endorsed and required by academic peer journals. Namely, the research is timely and is either a new basis of knowledge in the field or it builds upon the literature in the field. Said paper uses a variety of sources such as primary or secondary. Terms are defined in a precise and scholarly manner. Methodology is analyzed along with research validity so that the findings of the senior paper are replicable and valid. Said paper also acknowledges the limits of research and what further research needs to be done on said senior paper topic. Through compliance with generally accepted norms of academic writing, as described in their style manual of choice, the student will demonstrate their capacity for thoughtful and unbiased interpretation of the information discovered in the research process.

B. Research skills will be honed so that the student will be able to:

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1. Use databases such as the advanced search on “Academic Search Premier”.
2. Be able to enumerate the key elements of an academic, peer reviewed article and incorporate at least 25 of said sources into the actual text of the senior paper.

IV. TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER LEARNING RESOURCES

A. Optional Materials

1. Textbooks

Scott, G., and Garrison, S. (2012). *The Political Science Student Writer’s Manual*, ISBN-13: 978-0136029458 Seventh Edition. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall.

Turabian, Kate L. A manual for Writers, 7th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago PRESS, 2007. ISBN 9780226823379 (paperback).

American Psychological Association (2009). *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. ISBN-13: 978-1433805615 Washington, DC: Self-published

2. Other

V. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A. University Policies and Procedures

1. Attendance at each class or laboratory is mandatory at Oral Roberts University. Excessive absences can reduce a student’s grade or deny credit for the course.
2. Students taking a late exam may be charged a late exam fee by the department.
3. Students and faculty at Oral Roberts University must adhere to all laws addressing the ethical use of others’ materials, whether it is in the form of print, video, multimedia, or computer software. Plagiarism and other forms of cheating involve both lying and stealing and are violations of ORU’s Honor Code: “I will not cheat or plagiarize; I will do my own academic work and will not inappropriately collaborate with other students on assignments.” Plagiarism is usually defined as copying someone else’s ideas, words, or sentence structure and submitting them as one’s own. Other forms of academic dishonesty include –but are not limited to the following:

- a. Submitting another’s work as one’s own or colluding with someone else and submitting that work as though it were his or hers;
- b. Failing to meet group assignment or project requirements while claiming to have done so;
- c. Failing to cite sources used in a paper;
- d. Creating results for experiments, observations, interviews, or projects that were not done;
- e. Receiving or giving unauthorized help on assignments.

By submitting an assignment in any form, the student gives permission for the assignment to be checked for plagiarism, either by submitting the work for electronic verification or by other means. Penalties for any of the above infractions may result in disciplinary action including failing the assignment or failing the course or expulsion from the University, as determined by department and University guidelines.

4. By law, students are entitled to privacy regarding their records. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), as amended and available in the [ORU Employee Handbook](#), sets forth requirements designed to protect the privacy of student education records. The law governs access to records maintained by educational institutions and the release of information from those records.
5. Students are to be in compliance with University, school, and departmental policies regarding Whole Person requirements. Students should consult the Whole Person handbooks for requirements regarding general education and the students' majors.
 - a. The penalty for not submitting electronically or for incorrectly submitting a Whole Person artifact is a zero for that assignment.
 - b. By submitting an assignment, the student gives permission for the assignment to be assessed electronically.

A. Online Programs Policies and Procedures

1. **Learning Community:** Online learning community is established through active participation in the threaded weekly discussions. The mutual exchange of ideas, information, and experiences is an essential part of the learning process, and students are encouraged to use the discussion forum as virtual classroom platform.
2. **Netiquette and Online Discussions:** Online etiquette (netiquette) expectations include the following: (1) Be polite in your answers. Always address each other by name and sign your own name. Always be kind, even when you disagree. Do NOT type in all caps or use exclamation points!!!! (2) Do not use one-word answers or say "I agree" when responding. Always give meaningful responses. (3) Be professional. Proofread for correct spelling and grammar when posting answers. Write in full sentences. (4) Answer questions and complete assignments on-time. Remember that your classmates are dependent on your timely response(s).
3. **ADA and Students with Disabilities:**
 - Click here (<http://www.brightspace.com/about/accessibility/>) to view Desire2Learn's "Accessibility Resources for Students with Disabilities."
 - Students requiring Disability Services from ORU, please click here (http://www.oru.edu/current_students/my_services/student_resources/disability-services/)
4. **Useful Links for Online Students:**
 - [Student Learning Glossary](#)
 - Library: <http://library.oru.edu>.
 - D2L Helpdesk: d2lhelp@oru.edu
 - I.T. Student Helpdesk: studenthelpdesk@oru.edu
 - Contact the University: please [fill out this online form](#). Please first contact your instructor for assistance with any matter specific to the course.

B. Course Policies and Procedures—

1. Evaluation Procedures:

a. Senior Research Paper

- • Students are required to write a 30 to 35-page senior paper.
- • The text of the Senior Paper must a minimum of 30 pages in length maximum length should not exceed 40 pages without permission.
- • These component parts are required: title page, abstract, the text itself, including an introduction and a conclusion (it is the introduction, text, and conclusion that must be a minimum of 30 to 35 pages in length), endnotes, and a bibliography.

b. Research for the paper must use academic sources. Peer reviewed journal articles and peer reviewed books are examples of academic sources. Wikipedia is not an acceptable source. Using Wikipedia will earn a “0” on your senior paper. Internet sites and movies are not academic sources.

- • Critical part of the paper is to use an appropriate qualitative or quantitative research methodology
- • Said academic paper must have use at least fifteen academic sources in the paper (quoted or paraphrased; with proper citation).
- • Students must attempt to use both primary and secondary sources. Experience from Political Science Research Methods (GOV 205) or Public Policy Analysis (GOV 461) is essential.
- • Topics should be narrow enough to be suitable for a 30 to 35-page paper.

c. Professional Competency (See below for specific tasks)

d. Grading

Research Paper	95%
Professional Competencies	5%

2. Whole Person Assessment Requirements
None

3. Other Policies and/or Procedures

4. Extra Credit (if applicable) –omit this line if deemed unnecessary for the course

VI. COURSE CALENDAR

Week 1 Topic, Style of paper

Weeks 2 & 3 Outline, Annotated Bibliography (gathering sources)

Weeks 4 & 5 Body of paper

Week 6 Executive summary & Conclusion

Week 7 Final Draft

Please find additional details on weekly activities in the D2L course stated in italics above your syllabus calendar

Course Inventory for ORU's Student Learning Outcomes

Senior Paper LLDR 499

This course contributes to the ORU student learning outcomes as indicated below:

Significant Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly and includes targeted assessment.

Moderate Contribution – Addresses the outcome directly or indirectly and includes some assessment.

Minimal Contribution – Addresses the outcome indirectly and includes little or no assessment.

No Contribution – Does not address the outcome.

The Student Learning Glossary at <http://ir.oru.edu/doc/glossary.pdf> defines each outcome and each of the proficiencies/capacities.

OUTCOMES & Proficiencies/Capacities		Significant Contribution	Moderate Contribution	Minimal Contribution	No Contribution
1	Outcome #1 – Spiritually Alive Proficiencies/Capacities				
1A	Biblical knowledge			X	
1B	Sensitivity to the Holy Spirit			X	
1C	Evangelistic capability		X		
1D	Ethical behavior				X
2	Outcome #2 – Intellectually Alert Proficiencies/Capacities				
2A	Critical thinking				X
2B	Information literacy				X
2C	Global & historical perspectives				X
2D	Aesthetic appreciation			X	
2E	Intellectual creativity				X
3	Outcome #3 – Physically Disciplined Proficiencies/Capacities				
3A	Healthy lifestyle		X		
3B	Physically disciplined lifestyle		X		
4	Outcome #4 – Socially Adept Proficiencies/Capacities				
4A	Communication skills				X
4B	Interpersonal skills			X	
4C	Appreciation of cultural & linguistic differences			X	
4D	Responsible citizenship				X
4E	Leadership capacity				X

(Revised 10/17)