

Appendix D: Sample Independent Study Syllabus and Bloom's Taxonomy

The syllabus for an Independent Study needs to contain the same details as any graduate course at the College of Charleston. Each syllabus must contain the following:

- the proper numerical designation (EVSS 693);
- a descriptive but succinct title;
- an overall description of the course;
- student learning outcomes (See Bloom's Taxonomy, below);
- course readings and assignments;
- timelines;
- grading scale for graduate students
- clear articulation on how the student will be assessed

What follows is one example of an Independent Study Syllabus, then more information on Bloom's Taxonomy. "Bloom's Taxonomy" is the standard list that professors use to create student learning outcomes. Please select 2-3 of these verbs from that page to create the student learning outcomes for the Independent Study. Examine how these Student Learning Outcomes are employed in the syllabus below.

EVSS 693: Independent Study African Political Environments and Public Health Spring 2017

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Course Syllabus

Project Description

In this Independent Study the student will survey different modes of environmental change on the African continent, such as urbanization, desertification, and natural resource extraction. In addition, the Study will consider the implications for each of these modes upon public health outcomes.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Explain the relationship between environmental change and African politics
- Classify literature on environmental health to develop a review of literature
- Identify literature for developing methods in content analysis about African health policy
- Structure methods to collect data on African health policy

Course Requirements

- Attendance at organizational meetings
- Timely submission of assignments

- Final product: 12-15 page paper

Assessment Plan

- Clarity of explanation of ideas
- Demonstrated understanding of scholarship
- Understanding of material
- Integration of short papers
- Ability to apply theory to new situation
- Structure of research design
- Well written and properly cited

Grading Scale

A	100-90%
B+	89-85%
B	84-80%
C+	79-75%
C	74-70%
F	Below 70%
I	Incomplete
W	Withdrawal

Specific guidelines for each stage of the independent study will be provided separately by the instructor. Students are encouraged but not required to communicate with the instructor outside of organizational meetings.

Course Outline

Part I: Administration

January 11-20

- Planning and strategy meetings

Part II: Conceptualization of Project

January 23-February 10

- Meetings with advisor
- Establish research framework
- Establish list of environmental causes

Part III: Literature Review

February 13-March 3

- Meetings with advisor
- Survey approaches to topic to date

Part IV: Data Collection

March 13-31

- Meetings with advisor
- Conduct research into each environmental cause

Part V: Written Presentation of Data

April 3-21

- Meeting with advisor
- Independent writing of data

Final Product Due April 25th

Intensive investigation of environmental problems in Africa and implications on human health: The student will review the existing literature on the major environmental problems in Sub-Saharan Africa and the social and political influences surrounding these issues. The student will also investigate the environmental effects of agricultural development, urbanization, and rural to urban migration and the impacts these may have on the physical and mental health of African peoples. In addition, the student will explore the policy terrain surrounding these issues and the policy actors and institutions that attempt to effect change in this region.

Working Bibliography

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