Global Health Studies Senior Thesis Process

Overview
The Senior Thesis is a capstone experience in which the GHS student works with a faculty member across UM’s (Research Advisor) on an individual research project. The student must have an opportunity to apply knowledge and skills acquired in the classroom to real-life research problems in global public health. This research can be done either in on-campus laboratories and facilities or at other scientific institutions in the region where departmental faculty members perform global public health research, such as the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine, or Institute for Advanced Study of the Americas. The senior thesis in the field of global health marks an important academic accomplishment in a student’s undergraduate career.

Effective Fall 2022: All Global Health Majors will either complete a senior thesis (and enroll in GHS 499) or internship (and enroll in GHS 590).

Requirements
Students who would like to write a senior thesis and be eligible must go through an application process and be approved to write a thesis. If approved,

- Students must be a global health studies major (BA or BS) completing their junior year and graduating the next academic year.
- Students must have completed a Methods Course with a "B" or better by Spring quarter of their junior year.
- Students should first identify a faculty member willing to mentor them for a senior thesis in the spring of their junior year.
- Students must have identified a senior thesis advisor. Because the GHS program is an interdisciplinary program, students can work with faculty across UM’s departments.
- Write an original thesis of approximately 25 pages in length not including bibliographic references or tables, on an approved global health research question.
- Students must have at least 30 peer reviewed, scholarly resources and use the Chicago Manual of Style for citations.
- Additionally, students will complete a research poster and participate in the Office of Undergraduate Research and Community Outreach Research Symposium in Spring quarter.

The student and faculty member will agree upon the project structure and fill out an independent study request. If approved, the student will be granted a permission number for GHS 499. Questions about the senior thesis in global health should be directed to Dr. Imelda Moise.
Senior Thesis Overview Process

Research
- Must be tied to Global Public Health
- Work with Faculty Mentor

Advisor Meetings
- Define academic goals and senior thesis process
- Meet regularly throughout the semester

Enroll in Thesis Course
- Define steps of research and writing
- Peer and faculty feedback

Complete Senior Thesis

Timeline

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<tr>
<th>Timeline</th>
<th>To Do List</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshmen to junior years</td>
<td>Explore research opportunities</td>
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<td>Junior year spring/summer</td>
<td>Identify a research question</td>
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<td>Junior year spring/summer</td>
<td>Find a faculty mentor/advisor</td>
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<td>Junior year spring/summer. Submit the form before the start of the term fall of your senior year or by the end of drop/add at the latest.</td>
<td>Complete an independent study request for global health senior thesis</td>
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<td>By the end of the drop/add deadline for the term. Ideally, this would be submitted prior to the start of the term. Students are encouraged to take their independent study course in fall of their senior year.</td>
<td>Complete Independent Study application</td>
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<td>Upon approval of honors thesis application in global health</td>
<td>Given permission to enroll in 499</td>
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<td>Early January senior year*</td>
<td>Identify thesis readers (1-2 members)</td>
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<td>Early April senior year*</td>
<td>Present a senior thesis</td>
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