SOC 486 and SOC 495/496 Application

The SOC 486 Capstone Independent Study (Fall or Spring) requires completion of an individual research project mentored by one of the sociology faculty. This is a one-semester project open to juniors and seniors. Prerequisites: 203 Foundations of Social Theory, 300 Qualitative Research Methods or 301 Quantitative Research Methods, and any 300 or 400 level topical seminar.

The SOC 495/496 Capstone Honours Project requires completion of an individual research project mentored by one of the sociology faculty. This is undertaken over the course of two semesters and is open to seniors. Students need to register for both 495 (Fall) and 496 (Spring). Prerequisites: 203 Foundations of Social Theory, 300 Qualitative Research Methods or 301 Quantitative Research Methods, and any 300 or 400 level topical seminar. Registration for the honors project requires a major GPA of 3.5.

In order to register for the Capstone Independent Study or the Capstone Honors Project, students must fill out the following application and complete a proposal (see below for guidelines). Submit a hard copy and e-copy to your proposed project advisor at least two weeks before the start of registration the semester prior to the project’s start. The applications materials will be reviewed by the department. Approval must be obtained before registration.

_________________________________________________________________________________

Name:

Email Address:

Major G.P.A.:

Faculty member who has agreed to mentor your project:

Approximately how many times have you met with your project advisor about this project?

Check one:  SOC 486 _______  SOC 495/496 _______

Guidelines for the proposal content are given below. Badly organized, poorly written, unclear or incomplete proposals are unlikely to be approved. Your proposal should include the following:

1. Proposed title

2. Introduction
   □ What is your topic?
   □ What brings you to this topic?
   □ What makes it an important and relevant area of inquiry?
   □ What is your anticipated thesis statement?

3. Preliminary literature review and theoretical underpinnings of your project
   □ What literature, research or body of work is relevant to your project?
4. Research design and methodology
   □ Describe your research design
   □ What is your proposed methodology? Explain why this methodology is the best fit for your proposed project?
   □ If the research involves human subjects, attach a draft of the IRB forms. *Note that if IRB approval is required, approval of your project by the department is contingent upon receiving approval from the IRB.*

5. Conclusion
   □ What do you hope to accomplish?
   □ How will you benefit from engaging in this research process?
   □ What will the final product be (for example, a paper, poster presentation, conference presentation, essay, drawing, installation, play, movie, workshop)?
   □ How might the results of your research benefit others?

6. Initial bibliography of literature and/or other works to be used in the project
   □ This should include theoretical and methodological materials as well as substantive investigation.