

Experience of Difference- POS 485 Proposal

Students graduating from the Department of Politics and International Affairs are required to complete an Experience of Difference. This can be fulfilled through study abroad credit (POS 423), internship credit (POS 408), a legislative internship in the Arizona Legislature (POS 466), or undergraduate research (POS 485) for an approved project. The intention of this requirement is to have students gain a first-hand experience related to politics and international affairs that has them step out of their own lived experience and engage with a context and situation that is different and new. This will make our graduates more well-rounded and better able to contribute to and thrive in a diverse and changing world. Normally a student is only allowed to take the option of POS 485 in their senior year.

POS 485 will allow students to engage in service learning/civic engagement/volunteer work, or develop and write a research paper, under the supervision of a faculty member. Students will plan out the work with the supervising faculty, and will be expected to write either a single paper or a series of reflective papers based upon their experience.

In order to enroll in POS 485 Undergraduate Research, students must complete the following form in the semester before they need the class, and get approval from the faculty member teaching POS 485 and from the PIA Department Chair.

Please explain in an attached essay of 400-600 words what experience of difference you would like to pursue. Your essay should address the following questions; how will this be linked to your political science education? How will this enable you to gain an experience that is outside of your own lived experience? How will it make you more well-rounded and better able to contribute to and thrive in a diverse and changing world?

Student name and student number

Required signatures:

POS 485 Faculty

Date

PIA Chair

Date