

# MALS Thesis Proposal



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Dartmouth ID#: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Concentration: \_\_\_\_\_

Independent Study Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Term Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

## Title of Proposed Thesis:

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Please address each of these questions in your proposal (*samples available for viewing in the MALS office*):

### 1. Please describe the background of your topic and the problem you have identified

What is the issue that your thesis will address? Why is it important?

### 2. Address the academic disciplines from which you will draw and explain how these disciplines inform your methodology

### 3. What is the central research question that your thesis will address?

Please state the central question/theme in the form of an abstract, summarizing the problem you will address. Do NOT state this with generalizations, but rather with a developed thesis statement

### 4. How does this thesis project relate to your coursework in the MALS Program?

What prior background do you have in these fields (within MALS or prior to MALS)?

How have your courses in MALS contributed to the development of this thesis?

If related to your Independent Study project, how do you differentiate your thesis work?

### 5. Attachments:

Bibliography

Completed Plan-of-Study Form (*Without a bibliography & plan-of-study your proposal is incomplete*)

Comments from First Reader on viability of project; and any planned sabbaticals, extended travel or time restrictions during the year of the thesis project

**SIGNATURES OF THESIS READERS:**

Your principal reader must be an individual who holds a regular Dartmouth faculty appointment.  
One of your readers must be a MALS faculty member.

***By signing this proposal I affirm my willingness and availability to work with the student during the stated time period on this project.***

Principal Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Third Reader: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_