OLD DOMINION
UNIVERSITY

Graduating students: this form is to be completed and submitted electronically with your capstone paper to the Department Secretary, _____

Student Capstone Research Paper Declaration

Name and ID number: _____

ODU e-mail (required): _____

Alternative e-mail (suggested): _____

Course written for originally:_____

Major (GEOG or POLS):_____ Program: BA___ BS___

Expected graduation date: _____

I certify that I have read, understand, and agree to Old Dominion University's Honor Code. I understand that all Capstone Research Paper submissions are checked for plagiarism. I certify that this paper is my own work. I understand that to submit a paper that in any way is not of my own work is a violation of the ODU honor code and may result in disciplinary action by the University.

Student signature:_____date_____

Received by the PS&G (8c)4()DicSowol to sl1-.1(G)3(___)5(_)EM_____date_____te_____ticpp1(G)3a4(7__BDC

Scope, purpose, guidance and criteria on page two

Scope and Purpose

Submission and acceptance of a Capstone Research Paper is a graduation requirement for a Bachelor's Degree with a major in Geography or Political Science. The paper must be the Degree Candidate's original work, originally prepared and graded for an upper divisional undergraduate or graduate course at Old Dominion University, passed with a grade of C or higher. It must meet the requirements listed below.

The Department of Political Science and Geography uses the Capstone Research Paper to assess Degree Candidates' research skills and to assess the department's curriculum. Papers must be submitted no later than 1 April for graduation in May or August, or by 1 November for December graduation.

The Capstone Research Paper is not formally graded, although it will be assessed. It will not be accepted for the Degree Candidate's file unless it clearly meets all following requirements:

Procedure and Guidance

- Your Capstone Research Paper must originally have been submitted for a 300/400 level course at Old Dominion University in your major.
- The paper must emphasize research and analysis, rather than simply a descriptive report.
- Not acceptable: papers for POLS/GEOG 308, book reviews, and case briefs.
- The paper must be clean, with no grades or comments. Revised versions are acceptable.
- Minimum of 10 pages of text, at least 2500 words of text, 12 point type, double spaced, with one inch margins,
- The paper must have a title page, page numbers, and a bibliography with scholarly sources.
- Include notes, appendices, and graphics as appropriate.
- Attach this completed coversheet to your submission.
- Following assessment by the Chief Departmental Advisor, the Capstone Research Paper goes in the student's department file.

Assessment Criteria

- Conceptual understanding of the subject, including literature, theories, and issues
- Analytical and critical thinking skills including statement of objectives and argumentation, objectivity, clarity, creativity, reasoned judgment
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