George Mason University  
Graduate Course Approval/Inventory Form

Please complete this form and attach a copy of the syllabus for new courses. Forward it as an email attachment to the Secretary of the Graduate Council. A printed copy of the form with signatures should be brought to the Graduate Council Meeting. Complete the Coordinator Form on page 2, if changes in this course will affect other units.

Please indicate: _____ NEW  ___x__ MODIFY  _____ DELETE

Local Unit: MAIS  
Graduate Council Approval Date:

Course Abbreviation: MAIS  
Course Number: 797

Full Course Title: Interdisciplinary Studies Proposal

Abbreviated Course Title (24 characters max.):

Credit hours: 1  
Program of Record: MAIS

Repeatable for Credit?  
___ D=Yes, not within same term  
___ T=Yes, within the same term  
___ N=Cannot be repeated for credit  
Up to ___ hours

Activity Code (please indicate):  
___ Lecture (LEC)  ___ Lab (LAB)  ___ Recitation (RCT)  
___ Studio (STU)  ___ Internship (INT)  ___ Independent Study (IND)  ___ Seminar (SEM)

Catalog Credit Format  1 : 0 : 0  
Course Level: GF(500-600) ___ GA(700+) ___

Maximum Enrollment: 20  
Prerequisites or corequisites: Degree candidacy in MAIS and completion of 21 credits of graduate course work, including any required research methodology course.

Catalog Description (35 words or less) Please use catalog format and attach a copy of the syllabus for new courses.: Focused work on formulation and writing of MAIS project proposal or MAIS thesis proposal.

For MODIFIED or DELETED courses as appropriate:

Last term offered:  
Previous Course Abbreviation:  
Previous number:

Description of modification:

APPROVAL SIGNATURES:

Submitted by: ________________________________ email: __________________

Department/Program: ________________________________ Date: ________________

College Committee: ________________________________ Date: ________________

Graduate Council Representative: ________________________________ Date: ________________
**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**  
Course Coordination Form

**Approval from other units:**

Please list those units outside of your own who may be affected by this new, modified, or deleted course. Each of these units must approve this change prior to its being submitted to the Graduate Council for approval.

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Graduate Council approval: ___________________________________________ Date: ____________

Graduate Council representative: ________________________________ Date: ____________

Provost Office representative: ________________________________ Date: ____________
Description of the course:
Students in this seminar prepare proposals for MAIS projects and theses. The major work on these proposals will be done by each student in consultation with his or her faculty committee. MAIS 797 provides additional guidance and support from a member of the MAIS executive committee; it also provides a structure within which students can assist each other at key stages in the process of formulating and writing their proposals.

Texts:

Schedule of assignments:
**First meeting** (first week of classes)
Read the MAIS Handbook on projects and theses, and on project and thesis proposals;
read and assess a range of satisfactory proposals submitted in previous semesters;
explore library and web resources.
Each student describes the project or thesis he or she has in mind.

**Second meeting** (fourth week of the semester)
Discussion of assigned reading in Mauch & Park, and in Mayberry.
Each student posts on WebCT an annotated bibliography: at least 12 relevant entries in correct citation format, with a substantial paragraph summarizing the value of the text/document/website.
Students write preliminary problem/thesis statements.
Students also report to instructor concerning initial contacts with faculty committees.

**Third meeting** (eighth week of the semester)
Students post on WebCT critical reviews of the literature relevant to their projects/theses and outlines of their proposals.
In-class workshops on these reviews and outlines.

**Fourth meeting** (week 10):
Students post on WebCT full drafts of their proposals;
in-class workshop on these drafts.

**Week 12:** Final drafts of proposals submitted to the instructor.

A passing grade in MAIS 797 will be contingent on a student’s proposal having been approved by his or her faculty committee and by the readers from the MAIS Executive Committee.