Contents

Introduction

1 ISF Faculty
   1.1 ISF Director
   1.2 Associate Director
   1.3 Faculty Advisers
   1.4 Teaching Faculty
   1.5 Past Faculty Advisory Board Members
   1.6 Affiliated Faculty

2. ISF Advising
   2.1 ISF Student Academic Adviser
   2.2 General Advising Information
   2.3 Faculty Advising
   2.4 Tele-Bears Advising

3. The ISF Major
   3.1 Applying for the Major
   3.2 Prerequisites
   3.3 Major Requirements
       3.3.1 Upper Division Requirements
       3.3.2 ISF 189: Research Workshop
       3.3.3 ISF 190: Senior Thesis
   3.4 Honors in the Major

4. ISF and the College of Letters and Sciences
   4.1 College Requirements and Graduate
   4.2 ISF Courses that also Satisfy College Breadth Requirements
   4.3 ISF Lower Division Courses

5. ISF Resources
   5.1 Research Opportunities
   5.2 Study Abroad
   5.3 Resources: College, Career, Graduate School
   5.4 Letters of Recommendation and Preparing for Post-Graduation
   5.5 ISF Newsletter

6. Addenda
   6.1 Sample Research Programs
   6.2 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
   6.3 ISF Program Worksheet
INTRODUCTION: THE INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES FIELD (ISF) MAJOR

The ISF Major is part of the Division of Undergraduate and Interdisciplinary Studies (UGIS) of the College of Letters and Science. It is one of many interdisciplinary programs, but only one of two (with American Studies) that requires a senior thesis of each major. The ISF major is a research-driven program of liberal arts education that offers students the unique opportunity to develop an individualized cross-disciplinary Research Program that includes a Course of Study and a Senior Thesis. The Course of Study is made up of courses taken in the social sciences, the humanities, and/or the professional schools and colleges. Each student, with the help of a faculty adviser, follows a coherent Course of Study drawing on upper division courses. And each student, under the direction of a faculty adviser, produces a 30-40 page Senior Thesis, a sustained inquiry based on original, cross-disciplinary research. The Research Program (Course of Study + Senior Thesis) must meet four criteria:

1) It must be interdisciplinary, integrating methodological or theoretical approaches from at least three academic disciplines (departments). Interdisciplinary work may be comparative, historical, regional, thematic or problem-focused (see Appendix for examples) but it must combine approaches from three different disciplines.

2) The research program cannot replicate an existing major. The purpose of the ISF major is to allow undergraduates to combine work across disciplines in courses and with faculty where no other structured program exists.

3) The research program must be feasible, and the Senior Thesis must answer a manageable research question in a semester’s hard work (ISF 190). Each student’s proposed Research Program is discussed with and approved by a faculty adviser to assure feasibility.

ISF Majors develop critical research skills that help prepare students for a wide variety of careers and further study. ISF does not provide professional training, but prepares students for research in careers ranging from the university to Wall Street, from non-profits to the World Bank. Recent ISF students have pursued advanced academic study in Urban and City Planning, Anthropology, History, Creative Writing, Development Studies, Education, International Relations, Area Studies, Philosophy, Public Health, and Law School, and others have gone on to internships and jobs in nonprofit organizations as well as investment and marketing firms. The research skills acquired in the program are invaluable for success in these and other fields; the capacity to plan and execute a major original and innovative research paper, the Senior Thesis, is a capstone experience that affirms the skills of ISF students as critical researchers, thinkers, and writers, skills that will serve in a lifetime of learning and earning.
1. ISF FACULTY

1.1 Director:

**Peter Sahlins**, 259 Evans, 642-4315/0108 – Ph.D., Princeton University
Professor of History
E-mail: sahlins@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Immigration, Citizenship, Nationality in pre-modern and modern Europe; Animal-Human Relations
Publications: on political boundaries and national identity, immigration and state policies, the early history of nationality law.

1.2 Associate Director:

**Rakesh Bhandari**
E-mail: bhandari@berkeley.edu

1.3 Faculty Advisers:

**Peter Sahlins**, 259 Evans, 642-4315/0108 – Ph.D., Princeton University
Professor of History
E-mail: sahlins@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Immigration, Citizenship, Nationality in pre-modern and modern Europe; Animal-Human Relations
Publications: on political boundaries and national identity, immigration and state policies, the early history of nationality law.

**Robert Ehrlich**, 269 Evans, 642-0660/ 0108 - Ph.D., New York University
E-mail: behrlich@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Social Psychology; Psychoanalytic Theory; American Literature.
Publications: on American Literature, Psychoanalytic Theory and related fields.

**Earl Klee**, 267 Evans, 642-1344 / 0108 – Ph.D., SUNY-Albany
E-mail: eklee@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Politics & Political Economy; Political/Social Theory; Modern War.

**Gary Wren**, 239 Evans, 642-2087 / 0108 - Ph.D., Claremont
E-mail: gwren@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Technology & Society; Development Studies; Social/Political Theory.
Publications: on Technology and Society

1.4 Teaching Faculty

**Rakesh Bhandari**
E-mail: bhandari@berkeley.edu

**Robert Ehrlich**, 269 Evans, 642-0660/ 0108 - Ph.D., New York University
E-mail: behrlich@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Social Psychology; Psychoanalytic Theory; American Literature.
Publications: on American Literature, Psychoanalytic Theory and related fields.

**Renate Holub**, 269 Evans, 642-0110/0108 - Ph.D., University of Wisconsin
E-mail: rholub@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Critical Social Theory, Comparative European Studies, Political Philosophy, Intellectuals and Technology, Intellectuals and Globalization.

**Earl Klee**, 269 Evans, 642-1344 / 0108 - Ph.D., SUNY-Albany
E-mail: eklee@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Politics & Political Economy; Political/Social Theory; Modern War.
Publications: on American Politics, Democracy, Citizenship.

**Joseph Lough**, 101 Stephens
E-mail: joseph_lough@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Modern European Intellectual And Cultural History, Classical Greek Theories Of Politics And Economy, And The History of Social Theory
Publications: on Capitalism, Contemporary Religion, Political Theory

**Karin Sanders**, 6407 Dwinelle, 642-7068/0108, Scandinavian
E-mail: ksanders@berkeley.edu
Publications: Word and Image, Death & Representation, Scandinavian Women Writers, Body and Gaze

**Clare Talwalker**, 101 Stephens
E-mail: ctalwalker@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Postcolonialism, Vernacular Publics, and Middle Class Dynamics in Urban India
Publications: on Postcolonial Studies, Dialectical Anthropology.

**Gary Wren**, 239 Evans, 642-2087 / 0108 - Ph.D., Claremont
E-mail: gwren@berkeley.edu
Research Interests: Technology & Society; Development Studies; Social/Political Theory.
Publications: on Technology and Society

1.5. Past Faculty Advisory Board Members

Maximilian Auffhammer, Economics and IAS
Nezar AlSayyad, Director, Center for Middle Eastern Studies and City and Regional Planning
Rashasvini Bhansali, [ISF/Astrophysics 1995], Executive Director, International Development Exchange [IDEX], San Francisco
Wendy Brown, Political Science
Profs Manuel Castells, Sociology and City and Regional Planning
Jerry Feldman, Computer Science
Gillian Hart, Geography and Development Studies
Percy Hintzen, African Studies and Ethnic Studies
Renate Holub, ISF
Nancy Sheper Hughes, Anthropology
Dona Jones, English
Lynn Jones, ISF Librarian, UCB
Tony Kaes, Film and German Studies
Saba Mahmood, Anthropology
Beatriz Manz, Latin American Studies and Geography
Stefania Pandolfo, Anthropology
Michael Reich, Economics
Karin Sanders, Scandinavian Studies
Richard Steinhardt, Biological Sciences  
Pravin Varaya, Engineering and Economics  
Richard Walker, Geography  
Michael Watts, Geography and Development Studies  
Oliver Williamson, Economics and Business, Nobel Prize Winner  

1.6 Affiliated Faculty  

Vinod Aggarwal, Political Science  
Julia Bader, English  
Benjamin Brinner, Music  
Robert Berring, Law School, Chinese Law, Law and Computers  
Richard Buxbaum, Law School, Constitutional Law  
Greg Choi, Ethnic Studies  
Lawrence Cohen, Anthropology, South East Asian Studies  
Marianne Constable, Rhetoric  
Robert Cole, Haas School of Business, Sociology  
Shoshana Coleman, Sociology, Public Health  
Beverly Crawford, PEIS, Comparative European Studies, Political Science  
Greig Crysler Elizabeth Deakin, City and Regional Planning  
Nancy Euske, Director Non-Profit Organizations, Haas Business School  
Gordon Frankie, Environmental Science, Policy and Management  
Louise Fortmann, Environmental Science, Policy and Management – RIP & M  
David Frick, Slavic Studies  
Neil Gilbert, School of Social Welfare  
Deniz Gokturk, German  
Bernard Griego, Public Health  
Robert Hass, English  
Charles Henry, African American Studies  
Nimachia Hernandez, Native American Studies  
Robert Hosang, Public Health, Asia  
John Hurst, Education, Environmental Studies, Peace and Conflict Studies  
Andrew Jones, Education and Asian Studies  
Lira-Lisa Katz, Education  
Mary Kelsey, Sociology  
Georgina Kleege, English  
Robin Lakoff, Linguistics  
Todd LaPorte, Political Science, Technology Issues  
Hong Yung Lee, Political Science, Asia Pacific Studies  
Kristin Luker, Sociology, Women and Health  
Waldo Martin, History  
John McNamara, Art Practice  
Michael O’Hare, Goldman School of Public Policy  
Geoffrey G. O’Brien, English  
Kurt Organista, Social Welfare  
Cheri Pies, MSW  
Robert Price, Political Science, South Africa  
David Roland-Holst, Energy and Resources  
Jeffery Romm, Environmental Sciences  
Juliet Rothman, Bioethics  
Ananya Roy, City and Regional Planning, Global Cities, Metropolitan Studies, Global Poverty Minor  
Jerry Sanders, Peace and Conflict Studies, International and Area Studies  
Alex Saragoza, Ethnic Studies
2. ISF Advising

2.1 Student Academic Adviser

The student academic adviser is the representative for the L&S aspects of ISF. This adviser is responsible for all administrative procedures, such as maintaining student records and scheduling courses. This student academic adviser provides a general introduction to the ISF major as well as an overview of the major declaration process, but does not have the authority to approve a student's specialized course of study.

Patrick Civello, 263 Evans, 643-7691/0108, M-Th 9-12 noon and 1:15-4 pm, Fridays 9-12 noon, 1:15-2, 3-4
E-mail: isf@berkeley.edu

2.2 General Advising Information

- The ISF Major is unique in the College of Letters and Science in the importance it assigns to the advising role. The student's part in this aspect of the major is active, not passive: ISF students actively plan their own research program and cultivate a working relationship with their faculty adviser. Prospective majors must be aware of this active advising role and be prepared to accept the responsibilities it entails.

- ISF faculty hold regular and "by appointment" office hours sufficient to allow students time to be advised on their academic programs. It is incumbent upon the student majors to maintain close contact with their advisers. Each consultation by an ISF major with an adviser should demonstrate initiative and independence in which the student comes prepared to seek counsel on the content and direction of her research program.

- Before being admitted to the major, the students must explain their Research Program and describe the proposed course of study in a three page statement (double spaced). That statement should outline a research problem (or question) and a proposed list of courses along with a description of the research problem that will inform the research for the student's Senior Thesis. Prerequisites and requirements are described below; it is the student's responsibility, in close consultation with her adviser, to select the most appropriate courses relevant to the approved Research Program.

2.3 Faculty Advising

The ISF Major emphasizes the role of the faculty adviser and the student-adviser relationship. The nature of the major requires careful discussion of the proposed Research Program in selecting courses that best combine students' individual research interests and the ISF program goals. Students are assigned an adviser upon acceptance into the major, although faculty members outside ISF may serve as advisers when appropriate, as approved by the ISF Director. Students are required to meet with their ISF faculty adviser at least once a semester prior to Tele-BEARS enrollment in order to update their records and receive their Adviser Code (AC). Add/Drop petitions will require an adviser's signature as well. Adviser drop-in office hours are posted on the bulletin board outside the Student Academic Adviser's office and on the web at http://ugis.ls.berkeley.edu/isf/index.php
2.4 Tele-Bears Advising

At the beginning of the Tele-Bears Enrollment period, declared majors must meet with their faculty adviser to approve their proposed study lists and to receive their AC (adviser code) number. Students are expected to have reviewed the schedule of classes before meeting with their adviser. Check the ISF Major bulletin board outside the Student Academic Adviser’s office (or on the web at http://ls.berkeley.edu/dept/isf) for advising hours. In addition to regular drop-in hours, advisers usually schedule extra hours. All appointments must be made directly with the faculty adviser.

3. The ISF Major

Academic Senate regulations stipulate that students must declare a major by the time they have completed 60 units. In order to be considered for admission to the Interdisciplinary Studies Field Major, the student must consult a faculty adviser and complete an application form, available outside of the Student Academic Adviser’s office or on the web page.

3.1 Applying for the Major

Applications to the major may be submitted to a faculty adviser at any time throughout the semester. Drop-in advising hours for ISF faculty advisers are posted on the ISF bulletin board outside the Student Academic Adviser’s office and online at http://ls.berkeley.edu/dept/isf. Students should expect a two to three week turnaround time on application processing during the regular semester, and possibly longer during the summer session. Applications are reviewed by a faculty committee.

As part of the application process, students must prepare a statement describing their proposed Research Program and a tentative list of courses for the Course of Study. Some students find it helpful to have an informational meeting with the ISF Student Academic Adviser who will assist students in clarifying their research interests and in preparing for their first advising session with a faculty adviser.

QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER WHEN WRITING AN APPLICATION ESSAY:

- What is the primary area of research that makes up the Research Program? Is it historical, geographical, comparative, or some combination of the above?
- What are some of the research questions driving the Research Program? The RP can be “about” globalization and women, but should also ask a set of questions.
- What methodological frameworks appear most useful in approaching the Research Program? What are the different disciplinary perspectives engaged (sociology, economics, public health, philosophy)? How will these be articulated and combined in a framework?
- Can the applicant offer a tentative, working title of a Senior Thesis? Applicants are not expected to have identified a topic for their Senior Theses, but thinking forward can be helpful in shaping the Course of Study.
- Which courses already taken reflect or shape the Research Program?
- Which courses are planned, and how will they deepen and further the Research Program?
- Does the applicant have plans to study abroad and especially to incorporate work done abroad into the Research Program?
- Does the applicant have command over any foreign languages or personal experience relevant to the Research Program?
- Has the applicant informed herself about resources for research, including fellowships, available at Berkeley?
- What tentative plans might the applicant have at this stage for post-graduate study or work?

3.2 Prerequisite: World Civilizations Requirement (2 Courses Total):

** Note that all prerequisites and requirements must be taken for a letter grade **

At the time of application, a prospective major must have completed or be enrolled in one of the two course(s) of the World Civilizations requirement. Students will be admitted into the major only after ISF has received the student transcript or other proof of completion of at least one of the two World Civilizations prerequisites.

The World Civilizations requirement supposes a broad historical, cultural, and geographical study of a world civilization as a prerequisite for focused, empirically-driven and site-specific research. Students must take two courses (total), lower or
upper division, from three different categories: Global Regions, Pre-Modern Courses, and Modern History Courses. The Student Academic and Faculty Advisers will approve UC Berkeley courses that fall into one of these three categories:

- **Global Regions Courses.** Courses that can be counted as Global Regions courses must satisfy the requirement that their principal subject and site of inquiry does not concern U.S. history or culture (except as a site of pre-Colombian societies and civilizations). Courses based on geographic regions (African History and Culture, the Art of Southeast Asia, or national histories outside North America) can be counted, as can courses cast globally (The World Economy in the 20th Century). Global Regions are not necessarily geographic (Introduction to Development), nor are they necessarily historical (Contemporary Chinese Art), but these courses do bear the stamp of time and place beyond Western Civilization.

- **Pre-Modern Courses.** Courses that can be counted for the Pre-Modern category include any whose subject matter is, for the most part, about the period prior to 1600 B.C., inclusive of all civilizations, from Ancient Mesopotamia through Greece and Rome, the Middle Ages in Europe, and Early Islam, Early China, South Asia, or pre-Colombian Central and South America, including any topical courses covering these periods (the Economic History of Early Modern Japan).

- **Modern History Courses.** Courses that can be counted as Modern History include all those that substantially treat the question of the modern world (including European) history since 1600, but are not predominantly about contemporary societies and civilizations. Modern History courses thus include courses in disciplines and departments such as Literature, Economics, Political Science, and PEIS that have a substantial focus on the modern past, the period from 1600 to the present. 20th century Latin American Fiction would count, as would the Art History of the Renaissance, Modern Chinese Political Theory, a history of European imperialism, and many others.

**Students declare two courses in two of these three categories. For example, a student could choose a History of India course to count as Global Regions, and The Origins of the Novel to count for Modern History; alternately, a student could use a History of Ancient China course to count for the Pre-Modern Requirement, and 20th Century Francophone Fiction to count for the Modern History requirement. Both examples satisfy the prerequisite.**

For transfer students, it is strongly recommended that this requirement be completed before enrolling at Berkeley. Transfer students must submit syllabi of courses already taken to their ISF faculty adviser for approval.

### 3.3 Major Requirements

#### 3.3.1 Upper Division Requirements for the ISF Major:

30-36 upper division units must be distributed among the following three categories:

1. COURSE OF STUDY - A minimum of 20 units (at least SIX courses) drawn from at least THREE fields or disciplines (departments). Courses for this requirement must be UPPER DIVISION, i.e., junior and senior-level coursework. Upon consent of a faculty adviser, courses outside of the College of Letters and Science may be accepted when relevant, e.g., courses in Social Welfare, Journalism, Public Policy, City Planning, Business Administration, etc.

2. CORE METHODOLOGY COURSES - All ISF majors must take ISF 100A and one more course from the ISF 100 series: 100B, 100C, 100D, 100E, 100F, 100G, or 100H. These core courses introduce students to interdisciplinary approaches and methodologies in the social sciences and the humanities.

   **ISF 100A - Introduction to Social Theory and Cultural Analysis (4 units)** – This course draws on the classical traditions of social theory as well as contemporary analysis to examine the basic conceptual underpinnings of modern societies. That is, we explore what it means to live in the modern, postmodern, hyper-modern, or global worlds. In particular we examine the nature of industrial and post-industrial social formations, cultural perceptions, and the development of ideological constructs. Changing understandings of the shapes of power and domination is a central linkage tying these various analyses together. We are particularly interested in charting the interrelationship between quickly shifting social changes on a local and global level and competing theoretical interpretations of their meaning.

   AND ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:
ISF 100B - Introduction to Social Theory and Cultural Analysis (4 units) - This is a course exploring how we understand the idea of the self in contemporary social worlds. The course shares the presumption that the modern self is a created endeavor. It charts traditional and contemporary understandings of individual identity, the maturation process and the notion of an inner life, the concepts of freedom and individual agency, the force of evolution and heredity, and the influence of social causation. The course stresses the complex interplay between the development of a sense of self, and the socialization pressures at work in the family, society, and global cultures.

ISF 100C - Word and Image (4 units) - This course is designed to sharpen our skills in understanding what happens when the worlds of images and words meet. Starting with works from the "classical" tradition, it proceeds to investigate how word/image constellations operate in a variety of media, including sculpture and poetry, silent movies and advertising (cross-listed with Scandinavian C114). Topics include: picture theory, ideology of the image, storytelling, visual production, portraiture, etc. Readings include: Oscar Wilde, John Berger, Roland Barthes, Foucault.

ISF 100D - Introduction to Technology, Society and Culture (4 units) – This course offers an introduction to the interactions between technological revolutions and modern societies. It focuses on the social effects of the transitions from the industrial revolution in the nineteenth century to the communication and information revolutions of the twentieth century. The purpose of the course is to understand the origins and global implications of the Internet and the role of information technologies in the evolution of informational capitalism. In part I we will examine the interrelations between industrialization, urbanization, and marketization [Fordism, Taylorism, Sloanism]. In part II we will focus on the impact of automobility, telephony and TV and media on the structure of social organization in the global north [Europe and North America.] In part II we will examine the evolution and structure of the Internet and its impact on cultures and societies in a variety of global regions. Here we are interested in theoretical questions about the relations that obtain between producers and users of technology under conditions of globalization, cyberspace, and the information age [theory of informationalism]. Readings include; Polanyi, Castells, Himanen etc.

ISF 100E – The Globalization of Rights, Values, and Laws in the 21st Century (4 units) - This course, aimed at helping students to anticipate and prepare for the great ethic and legal debates of the 21st century, applies theoretical and methodological tools of social science, jurisprudence, and philosophy to examine the complex interplay between transnational values and international norms governing social interaction. We explore the shifting nature of important international norms in an effort to clarify how their evolution is influenced by transnational value changes, and vice versa. Particular attention is paid to the changing contents of social concepts such as sovereignty, citizenship, human rights, work, marriage, life and war, and how these changes -- often unleashed by the powerful forces of globalization -- are reflected in the laws governing transnational intercourse. The ultimate questions this course intends to answer are a) whether or not the ever closer interconnection of peoples and nations is inevitably leading to the emergence of a universal value system, and if so, b) whether this homogenization of values can be achieved peacefully and c) what kind of values will ultimately prevail. Readings include; Norgaard, Fukuyama, Huntington etc.

ISF 100F: Theorizing Modern Capitalism: Controversies And Interpretations (4 units) -The focus of this course will be on the various ways the nature and trajectory of modern capitalism has been interpreted. Our stress will be on post-Marxist works of analysis. The initial focal point will be on the work of Max Weber and Joseph Schumpeter, as well as important current debates in economic history and social theory generated by their work. Both Weber and Schumpeter display a strong fascination and elaboration with the work of Marx. The way they analyze Marx is very revealing about the way contemporary analysts seek to understand the capitalist system. We will also consider a number of current efforts that look at the systemic nature of capitalism. In particular we are interested in how economic historians now see the development of capitalism. We also want to examine the Weberian tradition in terms of the role of culture in shaping economic behavior. Debates about the nature of globalization will also be considered as well as analysis of the changing nature of work.

ISF 100G: Introduction to Science, Society, and Ethics (4 units) - This interdisciplinary course will explore whether it has proven possible and desirable to understand society through value-free and
ositivistic scientific methods as predominantly developed in the transatlantic worlds of the 19th centuries. We shall explore questions that may be applied to the realms of public health and human biology, or to the social sciences generally, including anthropology, sociology, economics, and political science.

**ISF 100H: Introduction to Media and International Relations (4 units)** - How have international actors used media to construct public opinion about salient issues, such as war, terrorism and intervention, international trade and finance, and global warming and resource depletion? The purpose of this course is to introduce students to key concepts, methods, and theories in the analysis of media effects, particularly in the areas of public opinion formation and international relations.

**NOTE:** If a student's Research Program requires advanced work in a specific methodological approach, an appropriate course may be substituted for ISF 100A or ISF 100B with the permission of the ISF Faculty. In such cases, the student's Research Program normally requires courses in quantitative analysis, advanced statistical methods, demographics, natural sciences, and/or computer science.

### 3.3.2 ISF 189 Research Workshop (optional until Fall 2014):

ISF highly recommends that students enroll in a thesis workshop (ISF 189) preceding their enrollment in the required Senior Thesis course (ISF 190 or ISF H195). Students who plan on completing their theses over the summer are required to enroll in the thesis workshop in the preceding spring semester, unless students have proof of equivalent work for ISF 189. Students should discuss the various theses options with their ISF faculty advisers, including the “Creative Thesis Option” available to students in the arts (described below).

**ISF 189 (3 units) - Thesis Workshop** – This optional but highly recommended course offers an introduction to interdisciplinary quantitative and qualitative research methods. It enables students to deepen and clarify their research topics and to tailor their methodological approaches to their disciplinary inclinations. Students will build a grounded bibliography on their research topic and acquire the skills to survey the basic conceptual and theoretical arguments on their particular topic. By the end of the semester, they will have written a critical survey of the literature on their topic, which will serve as the introductory chapter to the thesis. Students who plan to write honors theses will also, in the course of the Thesis Workshop, contact faculty on campus who have expertise in the students' research area.

### 3.3.3 Senior Thesis: ISF 190

**ISF 190 - Senior Thesis (4 units)** – The thesis is the culmination of the student's work in the ISF major. The subject of the thesis will reflect the student's Research Program. The thesis should demonstrate an acquaintance with the methods of research in the appropriate fields and disciplines. Students participate in the course meetings and tutorials that are especially designed to support the work of researching and writing an undergraduate thesis in interdisciplinary studies. The ISF Senior Thesis typically consists of 30-40 double-spaced pages with title page, abstract, table of contents, footnotes or endnotes, and a complete bibliography of sources consulted.

### 3.4 Honors in the Major

To qualify for honors in the ISF major, students must enroll in ISF H195 and write a Senior Thesis that is generally longer and more researched than that produced in ISF 190. To enroll in H195, students must have a grade point average of at least 3.60 in the major and an overall GPA of 3.6 for all courses taken at U.C. Berkeley. Upon completion of all requirements, students will receive their diploma with a special label affixed indicating the awarding of honors. The level of honors is based on total GPA in the major: 3.60-3.74 (Honors); 3.75-3.89 (High Honors); 3.90-4.0 (Highest Honors). The overall GPA must be 3.5 at the end of the final semester.

**ISF H195 - Senior Honors Thesis (4 units)** – Honors Students enroll in this course where, in collaboration with the Honors Thesis advisor, who will serve as the “first reader” of the thesis, students choose a “second reader” for their thesis for counsel and to evaluate the completed thesis from either ISF Advisory Board members or other UCB ladder faculty.
The Senior Honors Thesis generally consists of 60 to 80 double spaced pages. Students are encouraged to submit outstanding thesis work for publication to the Berkeley Undergraduate Journal or, in consultation with their thesis advisers, in other appropriate venues.

3.5 ISF Creative Thesis Option –

On occasion, an appropriate part of the senior thesis can be an original, creative work such as a play, musical composition, a performance piece, a video production, a screenplay, or a collection of poetry. The thesis, no matter what form it takes, is expected to be an outgrowth of the Research Program/Area of Concentration. Students choosing to do the creative option must 1) secure an outside adviser/"second reader" who is knowledgeable in the appropriate creative field, and 2) write a 15 page research paper on the theoretical foundations of the creative work. Students who are interested in exploring this option should first consult with Professor Robert Ehrlich.
4. ISF and the College of Letters and Sciences

4.1 College Requirements and Graduation

L&S REQUIREMENTS: In addition to completing ISF major requirements, students are also responsible for satisfying the graduation requirements of the College of Letters and Science, as well as Campus and University requirements. It is recommended that each ISF major stay abreast of the most current requirements by visiting the L&S web site at: http://ls-adviser.berkeley.edu/. Appointments to see a college adviser may be scheduled in 206 Evans Hall.

COMMENCEMENT: Graduation is the official completion of your degree requirements, while commencement often takes place before you have completed your last final exam in May. Students who complete all requirements for graduation during spring typically participate in the May commencement ceremony; students who complete their requirements during summer or fall of a given year are also welcome to participate in the May commencement ceremony. Graduating seniors should contact the ISF Student Academic Adviser. See the UGIS website for more information at http://learning.berkeley.edu/commencement.html.

TO RECEIVE YOUR DIPLOMA: Students must declare their candidacy for graduation in the semester in which they plan to complete all requirements. They may do this during their Tele-Bears session when enrolling in their final semester. Students must put themselves on the "degree list" in order to officially graduate. Diplomas will be mailed to your permanent address approximately 3 ½ months after the end of the term you officially graduated.

Please note: Your diploma will list your major as “Interdisciplinary Studies.” It will not mention your Research Program.

4.2 ISF Courses that also Satisfy College Breadth Requirements. In addition to satisfying major requirements, the following ISF courses may also satisfy L&S breadth requirements.

* Arts and Literature (AL) Breadth is satisfied by the following ISF courses: 100C
* Historical Studies (HS) Breadth is satisfied by the following ISF course: C145
* International Studies (IS) Breadth is satisfied by the following ISF courses: 60, 100A, 100D, 100E, 100H, C145
* Philosophy and Values (PV) Breadth is satisfied by the following ISF courses: 60, 61, 100A, 100B, 100E, 100G
* Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) Breadth is satisfied by the following ISF courses: 60, 100A, 100B, 100D, 100E, 100F, 100H, C125, C145

4.3 ISF Lower Division Courses. ISF has developed a series of courses (ISF 60, 61, 62) to meet the needs of lower division students across the campus by 1) Providing courses which meet L&S breadth requirements--particularly Philosophy and Values and International Studies, and 2) introducing students to interdisciplinary inquiry. While the upper division courses in ISF are generally organized around the most important texts in social and cultural theory, the lower division courses (the ISF 60 series courses) are problem-focused and designed to introduce students to the theoretical and political implications of various disciplinary methods and approaches. The following three courses satisfy L&S College Breadth requirements:

* ISF 60 - Technology and Values (IS, PV, SBS)
* ISF 61 - Moral Reasoning and Human Action (PV)
* ISF 62 - Representations of Self-Deception in the Modern World (SBS)
5. ISF Resources

5.1 Research and Internship Opportunities. ISF students are encouraged to participate in research and/or internship opportunities, such as the URAP program (Undergraduate Research Apprentice Program), where they learn to conduct research with Berkeley faculty. For more information contact the URAP office in 5 Durant Hall, 643-5376, http://research.berkeley.edu/urap/.

Students can also participate in UC Berkeley’s Washington Program (UCDC) where undergraduates spend a semester (fall or spring) in Washington, D.C. pursuing full-time course work and an internship in their selected field. For more information, visit the UCDC web site at: http://learning.berkeley.edu/ucdc/program.htm

Students should also contact the Scholarship Connection office, 5 Durant Hall, for fellowships and scholarships: http://scholarships.berkeley.edu. To explore the many research opportunities that exist for undergraduates, please visit UC Berkeley’s research website at: http://research.berkeley.edu/. Students can also contact the Career Center’s web site to explore available internships at: http://career.berkeley.edu/.

5.2 Study Abroad. ISF students are strongly encouraged to study abroad and incorporate their coursework from overseas into their research programs. With over 250 programs in 36 countries offered through the UC Education Abroad Program alone, and many programs available during the summer and outside the UC system, there is a study abroad program for every kind of student. When relevant, up to three upper division courses taken abroad may be used towards fulfilling the major’s requirements. Students can begin researching the program that is right for them by visiting the UC Education Abroad web site at: http://eap.ucop.edu.

5.3 Resources: College, Career, and Graduate School

We recommend that you review the web sites of the following resources - it is a great preliminary step before making personal contact - be sure to make use of as many of the vast resources on campus as possible!

College of Letters and Science Advising: http://ls-advice.berkeley.edu/
Career Center: http://career.berkeley.edu/
Student Learning Center: http://slc.berkeley.edu/
UCB Library: http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/
Undergraduate Research at Berkeley: http://research.berkeley.edu/
UCB News, Events and Speakers: http://www/berkeley.edu/calendar

5.4 Letters of Recommendation and Preparing for Post-Graduation

Students are advised to develop a file for letters of recommendation. We encourage you to visit the Career Center’s web site at: http://career.berkeley.edu/ to research the many services available, including their Letter Service. This service allows students to have letters of recommendation submitted on-line to the Career Center, where they are kept on file and mailed out at request. Faculty generally require at least a three-week advance notice to write a letter of recommendation. As an ISF major, you may contact Professor Peter Sahlins, Director of ISF, with specific questions regarding graduate school applications and fellowships.

5.5 ISF Newsletter

ISF-related information is sent to all declared ISF majors reminding them of upcoming deadlines and events of interest. For additional information, contact the Student Academic Adviser.
6. Addenda

6.1 Sample Research Programs

The following is a small sample representing Research Programs that ISF students have developed in the past. The Research Program consists of the Course of Study (CS), a selection of courses drawn from a variety of disciplines that help inform the eventual thesis topic, and the Senior Thesis (ST). These examples are NOT meant to define or limit possible research areas. (Note: Some of the courses below have prerequisites. The completion of prerequisites should be taken into consideration when preparing your application to the major).

(1) **CROSSCULTURAL PERSPECTIVES ON HEALTH AND ILLNESS**
Course of Study (CS):
- Letters and Sciences C140U – The Archeology of Health and Disease
- Letters and Sciences 180 – Self and Society
- Psychology 131 – Developmental Psychopathology
- Psychology 166AC – Cultural Psychology
- Public Health 112 – Global Health
- Sociology C115 – Sociology of Health and Medicine

Thesis: “Madness No Longer Exists Except As Seen”

(2) **GLOBALIZATION AND THE INDIVIDUAL**
Course of Study (CS):
- Anthropology 139 – Controlling Processes
- Gender and Women's Studies 129 – Bodies and Boundaries
- Geography 110 – Economic Geography of the Industrial World
- Geography 128 – Global Environment and Development
- Peace and Conflict Studies 101 – Contemporary Theories
- Political Economy 100B – International Development

Thesis: “The Divided States of Corn: A Comparative Policy Analysis of GM Corn Between the United States and France” (ST)

(3) **LAW AND POLICY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**:
Course of Study (CS):
- Legal Studies 138 – The Supreme Court and Public Policy
- Legal Studies 158 – Law and Development
- Legal Studies 182 – Law, Politics and Society
- Peace and Conflict Studies 149 – Global Change
- Public Policy 101 – Introduction to Public Policy Analysis
- Public Policy 156 – Program and Policy Design
- Political Science 139D – Urban and Sub-national Politics in Developing Countries


(4) **CONSUMER BEHAVIOR AND CULTURE**
Course of Study (CS):
- Anthropology 149 – Psychological Anthropology
- Media Studies 190 – Propaganda and Persuasion
- Psychology 166AC – Cultural Psychology
- Sociology 169 – Sociology of Consumerism
- Undergraduate Business Administration 106 – Marketing
- Undergraduate Business Administration 160 – Consumer Behavior


(5) **MEDIA AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS**
Course of Study (CS):
Media Studies 160 – International Media
Legal Studies 154 – International Human Rights
Cognitive Science C104 – Mind, Language, Politics
Cognitive Science C126 – Perception
Interdisciplinary Studies Field C125 – American Media and Global Politics
African American Studies N124 – Political Philosophy of Martin Luther King Jr.


(6) LANGUAGE, IDEOLOGY & POWER
Course of Study (CS):
Anthropology 139 – Controlling Processes
German 109 – Language and Power
History 132B – Intellectual History of the United States
Peace and Conflicts Studies 126 – Introduction to Human Rights
Political Economy 100 – Classical Theory
Political Economy 101 – Contemporary Theory of Political Economy

Thesis: “Framing the Supreme Court: The News Media and Brown vs. Plata”

(7) GLOBALIZATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT
Course of Study (CS):
Anthropology 137 – Energy
Anthropology 139 – Controlling Processes
Environmental Science, Policy and Management 117 – Urban Agriculture
Environmental Science, Policy and Management 118 - Agroecology
Environmental Science, Policy and Management 151 – Society, Environment, and Culture
Geography 130 – Food and Environment


(8) DETERMINISM AND RESISTANCE: MIND, WILL, AND BEHAVIOR
Course of Study (CS):
Anthropology 166 – Language, Culture, and Society
Psychology 150 – Personality
Psychology 160 – Social Psychology
Rhetoric 132 – The Gilded Age
Rhetoric 140 - Qualities
Rhetoric 175 – Philosophical Discourse

Thesis: “Imagined Control or Definite Freedom: A Discussion on Resistance to Social Influence and its Neurobiological Basis”

(9) POSTCOLONIAL CITIES
Course of Study (CS):
Architecture 130 – Introduction to Architectural Design Theory and Criticism
City and Regional Planning 115 – Urbanization in Developing Countries
Environmental Design 100 – The City
Geography C112 – History of Development and Underdevelopment
Rhetoric 155 – Postcoloniality

Thesis: “Commonwealth Ruins: Orientalism and Urban Design in India’s Capital, 1911-2010”

(10) INDUSTRIALIZATION & THE DEVELOPMENT OF ORGANIZATIONS
Course of Study (CS):
American Studies 172 – Business in Its Historical Environment
Peace and Conflict Studies 170 – Conflict Resolution and Societal Change
Sociology 110 – Organizations and Institutions
Sociology 121 – Innovation and Entrepreneurship
Undergraduate Business Administration 151 – Management and Human Resources
Thesis: “The Transformation of Corporate Management in America from the 20th Century to the Present”

(11) DEVELOPMENT, ECONOMICS, & POVERTY
Course of Study (CS):
- Anthropology 139 – Controlling Processes
- Development Studies C100 – Development in Theory and History
- Economics N171 – Economic Development
- History 100 – Special Topics in History
- International Area Studies 115 – Global Poverty
- Political Economy 101 – Contemporary Theories of Political Economy

Thesis: “Argentine Development in a Globalizing Era: Diverse Failures From ISI to Neoliberalism”

(12) POLITICAL ECONOMY AND URBANIZATION
Course of Study (CS):
- Information Studies 190 – Technology and Development
- Architecture 139 – Architecture, Ethics, and Activism
- Environmental Design 100 – The City
- City Planning 114 – Urban Transportation
- Public Health 112 – Global Health
- Energy and Resources 175 – Water and Development

Thesis: “Marketing Sustainability in the Dharavi Redevelopment Project”

(13) ENERGY AND SOCIETY
Course of Study (CS):
- Anthropology 137 – Energy, Culture, and Society
- Energy and Resources 100 – Energy and Society
- Energy and Resources 180 – Ecological Economies in a Historical Context
- Environmental Sciences, Policy, and Management 150 – Renewable Energy
- History 100 – History of Technology
- Political Science 126A – Political Economy
- Sociology 128 – Society and the Environment


(14) POPULATION, POVERTY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
Course of Study (CS):
- Demography 126 – Poverty and Population
- Environmental Sciences, Policy, and Management 161 – Environmental Philosophy and Ethics
- Gender and Women’s Studies 129 – Bodies and Boundaries
- Geography 130 – Geography of Food and Environment
- Public Health 150B – Environmental Health
- Public Health 181 – Global Poverty and Population

Thesis: “Population, Poverty & Environment: An ecofeminist perspective of Sub-Saharan women”

(15) COMPARATIVE STUDIES IN MANAGEMENT
Course of Study (CS):
- Economics 124 – Special Topics in Industrial Organizations
- Sociology 110 – Organizations and Social Institutions
- Sociology 121 – Innovation and Entrepreneurship: Social and Cultural Context
- Undergraduate Business Administration 105 – Organizational Behavior
- Undergraduate Business Administration 141 – Production and Operations Management
- Undergraduate Business Administration 175 – Legal Aspects of Management


(16) URBAN DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT
Course of Study (CS):
- Architecture 111 – Design Principles
- Architecture 137 – Energy, Culture, and Society
City and Regional Planning 118AC – The Urban Community
City and Regional Planning 140 – City building and Place making
Environmental Sciences, Policy and Management 150 – Renewable Energy and the Environment

Thesis: “Pier 70, San Francisco: Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse of an Industrial Complex”

(17) CONTEMPORARY INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
Course of Study (CS):
- History 151C – Britain, 1848 - 1997
- History 158 - Europe
- Law and Society 122 – Individual and State
- Political Science 111 – Environmental Conflict
- Political Science 142 – Welfare in Hungary
- Political Science 175 – Hungary – European Context


(18) HISTORICAL HUMAN ECOLOGY
Course of Study (CS):
- Archeology 121 – Dawn of European Culture
- Anthropology 174AC – California Historical Anthropology
- Environmental Sciences 153 – Global Environmental Justice
- Geography 130 – Natural Resources and Population
- Geography 140A – Physical Landscapes
- Geography 144 – Sub-Saharan Africa


(19) TRADE AND GLOBALIZATION
Course of Study (CS):
- Demographics C175 – Economic Development
- Geography 110 – Economic Geography of the Industrial World
- Political Economy 101 – Contemporary Theories of Political Economy
- Public Policy 190 – Special Topics in Public Policy
- Undergraduate Business Administration 167 – Special Topics in Organizational Behavior
- Undergraduate 178 – Introduction to International Business

Thesis: “NAFTA: the Cost of Free Trade”

(20) TECHNOLOGICAL INNOVATION AND GLOBAL COMMUNICATION
Course of Study (CS):
- Anthropology 146 – Mobile City Chronicles: Gaming with New Technologies
- Geography 172 – Topics on Social Geography
- Industrial Engineering and Operations Research 190E – Advanced Topics
- Legal Studies 146 – Law and Economy of Innovation
- Sociology 121 – Sociology of Entrepreneurship
- Information Studies 103 – History of Information


(21) LANGUAGE, IDEOLOGY, AND SOCIETY
Course of Study (CS):
- Education 250C – Discourse Analysis
- English 117A - Shakespeare
- History of Art C120A – Ancient Mesopotamia
- Linguistics 150 – Sociolinguistics
- Native American Studies 151 – Native American Philosophy
- Psychology 125 – Developing Brain
- Rhetoric 117 – Language, Truth, and Dialogue

Thesis: “Memorial Museums: Representing Atrocity & Recovering from Conflict”
6.2 Frequently Asked Questions

What is the ISF Major?

The ISF (Interdisciplinary Studies Field) major is a unique program at Cal that offers students a special opportunity to take advantage of the University's strengths as a research institution. Providing a research-driven liberal education, ISF allows students to design their own original program of research and study, resulting in a major research project (Senior Thesis). The ISF major is intended for students who wish to focus their studies on a non-U.S. topic, have a clear idea about the research they would like to pursue and the courses that will be most meaningful to them (the Course of Study), and who are prepared to write a Senior Thesis. Applicants are encouraged to convey coherently their area of research and study in a brief proposal.

How do I choose courses for my Course of Study?

When developing your ISF major, it is important to choose a Course of Study that relates to your central research interests. Since Cal offers an extraordinary breadth of courses, it may seem at first an overwhelming task to select courses from these offerings. So:

1) Start by defining your interests. Look over the "Sample Research Programs" in the ISF handbook, available as a .pdf on the ISF website. Although your major will reflect your own goals and interests, other ISF students before you probably have put together programs in your area of interest, and you may want to use their programs as a reference.

2) Look over the current list of majors in the College of Letters & Science's web site (http://ls-advising.berkeley.edu/majors/majorlist.html), and list those that are of interest to you. Carefully read the brief descriptions of each major in the General Catalog. Then browse the descriptions seeking courses relevant to your interests. Think about how these courses might be related. Do you find yourself wanting to explore this connection?

3) Discuss your proposal with an ISF faculty adviser. Once you have a list of courses or you have an idea of what you would like to research or study, visit an ISF faculty adviser to discuss your proposal. The faculty adviser will assist you in developing a proposal with coherence, breadth, and depth that is comparable to an existing academic discipline here at Cal. In addition, the faculty adviser will be able to direct you to additional faculty on campus who teach in your area of interest.

How do I apply? For an application to the ISF major, you can download one from our web site (http://ls.berkeley.edu/ugis/isf/major/declaring.php).

What can I do with an ISF major?

Just about anything! Your research program will reflect your passions and your interests, and your interdisciplinary training will be a bonus for employers, graduate programs, and professional schools seeking unusual and highly-motivated students. You will have learned critical skills of research, analysis, interpretation, and writing that will translate across professional sectors and domains. As an ISF major, you have a demonstrable record as a scholar and researcher with the capacity to complete original and innovative work informed by the best scholarship in several disciplines and domains. These skills will translate into graduate or professional study, non-profit work of business, government or community service. The ISF major trains students as critical researchers and writers, developing fungible skills that will serve in a lifetime of learning.

6.3 The ISF Program Worksheet. Found on the last page of the Student Handbook, the four-year worksheet is intended to students in planning their research program. The worksheet sets up an effective program for completion of the major and other college/campus requirements while allowing room for participation in such enrichment opportunities as education abroad, research, field work, or completion of a minor. Students, including those transferring from other institutions, are encouraged to fulfill prerequisites and to declare the ISF major by the end of the first semester of their junior year.
### Interdisciplinary Studies Field (ISF) Major Four Year Plan

#### FRESHMAN YEAR
Students should explore their interests and start to satisfy L&S, UC and AC requirements.

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Total units: 15

#### SOPHOMORE YEAR
Students should be completing L&S requirements and ISF major prerequisites and applying to the major; once one of the world civilization prerequisites is completed, students are eligible to declare

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<tr>
<td>(3 or 4) ISF World Civ prereq #1</td>
<td>(3 or 4) ISF World Civ prereq #2</td>
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Total units: 45

#### JUNIOR YEAR
Students should complete any remaining L&S/University requirements and begin upper division work in the major. Transfer students should begin work on prerequisites immediately.

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<td>(4 units) ISF 100A Theory/Analysis</td>
<td>(4 units) ISF 100B Theory/Analysis</td>
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<td>(3 or 4) ISF Concentration #1</td>
<td>(3 or 4) ISF Concentration #2</td>
<td>(3 or 4) ISF Concentration #3</td>
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<td>EAP/URAP/ENRICHMENT</td>
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Total units: 75

Total units: 90
**SENIOR YEAR.** Students should complete any remaining ISF major requirements and prepare for thesis.

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<tr>
<td>(3 or 4) ISF Concentration #4</td>
<td>(3 or 4) ISF Concentration #6</td>
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<td>(3 or 4) ISF Concentration #5</td>
<td>(4) Senior Thesis (ISF 190 or H195)</td>
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