**CHID 491 Form (effective Autumn 2021)**

# *This form must be completed and submitted to CHID Academic Advisor Cynthia Anderson (*[*chid@uw.edu*](mailto:chid@uw.edu)*) prior to registering for CHID 491 (beginning with Winter 2022 registration). You cannot register for 491 without this form, which MUST be (electronically) signed by your thesis advisor.*

*The purpose of the form is to ensure that students have a sense of intellectual direction for their projects* ***prior*** *to beginning CHID 491. Having a rough vision for your project and having an advisor to guide you as you refine your ideas and develop your research are essential to make effective use of the learning structure of CHID 491. Your ideas can and will change after you begin CHID 491 (perhaps entirely!), but securing your advisor beforehand will give you forward momentum as you start the process.*

**Student Name: Type here**

**Student Number: Type here**

**Student UW E-Mail: Type here**

**Thesis Advisor’s Name & Dept: Type here**

**Thesis Advisor’s E-Mail Address: Type here**

I plan to complete a (pick one):  10-credit thesis (CHID 491 + CHID 493, two quarters)   
  15-credit thesis (CHID 491 + CHID 492 + CHID 493, three quarters; required for CHID Honors)

# Proposed Project Topic

*In one or two paragraphs, describe your project’s central areas of inquiry (i.e. topics and research questions) and format (e.g. research paper, creative writing, artistic project, website….).*

*Describe here*

Thesis Advisor’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

❒ Thesis Advisor, check here to confirm that you have received and reviewed the information sheet from your advisee “Thesis Information for Faculty Advisors.”

**Thesis Information for Faculty Advisors\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Thank you for agreeing to advise a CHID senior thesis. Please sign this CHID 491 form once you have reviewed your student’s project ideas above and have established mutual agreements and expectations. We hope that you enjoy this process and we always welcome your questions or feedback.

**Overview of the CHID Thesis**

CHID encourages each student to pursue a senior project that stems from their personal passions and intellectual investments. In the past, CHID students have realized a wide range of interdisciplinary projects that push beyond the boundaries of a “traditional” academic paper. CHID students have also produced some stellar work intended primarily for academic audiences. Oftentimes, CHID students initiate explorations during their senior project that carry them far beyond their undergraduate career.

Students have the option of pursuing either a 10-credit or a 15-credit project (based on the quantity of projected work, not the quality of projected work). Alternatively, CHID offers a 5-credit option, CHID 490, which was reintroduced in the spring of 2020. CHID 490 students fulfill the CHID major’s thesis requirement in a single quarter, completing an individual research project under a common thematic chosen by the instructor (e.g. Love & Attraction; Extinction). CHID 490 is currently offered once per year in Spring quarter and is primarily intended for students who do not wish to complete a 10- or 15-credit thesis.

If students decide to pursue a 10-credit or 15-credit option, students begin the senior project with 491, a workshop-style class that leads students through the early stages of their project development. By the end of 491, students will have developed a narrow set of research questions and a project proposal, notes on a significant amount of individual reading/research, a skeleton draft (basically an outline with at least one or two component parts “fleshed out”), and a work plan for the following quarter(s).

CHID 492 and CHID 493 operate as independent studies and are supervised by the student’s advisor. Students completing a 10-credit project will work independently with their advisor after they have completed 491, signing up for CHID 493 credits. Students completing a 15-credit project will work independently with their advisor for two additional quarters after completing 491, signing up for CHID 492 and CHID 493 credits in succession.

**CHID Senior Thesis Advising Guidelines**

*Getting Started*

* Once you have agreed to serve as a CHID student’s advisor, sign the 491 form (your student is responsible for providing this) and offer your feedback on the students’ project idea. Ask your advisee to make any necessary revisions to these documents prior to submitting their form to Cynthia. This process takes place during the quarter prior to CHID 491, taught by Dr. Annie Dwyer or Dr. Nick Barr.
* Establish an understanding of how you will work together: communicate your availability and limits as well as any basic expectations or requirements that you have for the student. Ask the student to voice their own expectations, as well, and be frank about what you can and cannot do for them.
* Schedule your first meeting for the quarter during which your student will be taking CHID 491. Aim for the second or third week, as the quarter goes quickly. Your workload can be minimal during the quarter during which your student is taking 491, as they have the support of the instructor and their peers. However, it is advisable that you meet with your student early in the quarter and touch base periodically throughout the quarter to ensure that you can support the direction they are headed with their project, and to advise on readings, thinking, etc.

*During 493 (and 492, if applicable)*

* Hold your advisee accountable to their work plan.
* Meet with your advisee at least a few times over the course of the quarter: during these meetings, you might provide feedback and guidance on research/readings, writing, process, and so forth.
* Give written and/or oral feedback on drafted material—and the opportunity for your advisee to respond to/incorporate feedback in their final work.
* Grade and provide written feedback on the final project.
  + Given the wide variety of projects that students produce, there is no standard grading rubric for 492/493. You can refer to the expectations that you established with your student before the beginning of the quarter, as well as of course the intellectual merit of their project, to determine a grade. For creative projects, we do require that students write a companion paper (a reflective essay at least 5-10 pages in length).
  + If you are advising a 15-credit thesis: the grade for 492 should be submitted as an “N,” and will be automatically converted when the grade for 493 is submitted.
* Feel free to communicate any feedback or ideas you have about the CHID curriculum and the advising process to the Chair of CHID.

**Questions?**

Feel free to contact the CHID 491 instructors Dr. Annie Dwyer at [dwyera@uw.edu](mailto:dwyera@uw.edu) and Dr. Nick Barr at [nickbarr@uw.edu](mailto:nickbarr@uw.edu), or CHID’s advisor Cynthia Anderson at [chid@uw.edu](mailto:chid@uw.edu).