Guidelines for Master’s Integrative Project
For the Programs of
International Educational Development (IED)
and Comparative & International Education (CIE)

The purpose of the Master’s integrative project is to provide the opportunity to demonstrate what you have learned by the end of your graduate education. The college requires that each department and/or program select one form of presentation for their students from among three alternatives. In the case of the IED/CIE programs, the choice was made to require students to write an integrative paper highlighting what they have learned during their Master’s program. The followings are four types of writing projects that have been accepted for this purpose:

(1) Application of a relevant literature to a specific problem: For example, in a paper on “Adult Literacy Program Development in Country X”, the student may draw upon the findings of the literature on adult learning theory to inform the development of a literacy program to combat the high incidence of adult illiteracy in Country X.

(2) Application of course material to experience: For example, in a paper on “The Financing of An Education Program for Girls in Country Y”, the student may apply the lessons learned in a course on education financing to identify feasible strategies for mobilizing additional resources to support a primary-education program for girls in order to expand girls’ access to schooling in Country Y.

(3) Journal presentation of learning experiences: For example, in a paper on “Internship Experience in a Non-Governmental Organization”, the student may first describe his/her internship experience in a NGO, and then critically reflect or assess to what extent the experience confirm or contradict the general findings in the literature regarding the role of NGOs in international educational development.

(4) Documenting the process of designing electronic instructional materials: For example, in a paper on “Web-based Learning of College English”, the student may explain the conception of the Internet as a medium for learning college English and document the lessons learned in developing materials used on the Internet for learning college English.

Other types of writing projects could also be accepted. You should discuss the possibilities with your advisor.
General Guidelines to Follow:

1. Define your paper around a specific topic or problem that is of interest to you. Try to avoid writing a description of a topic like “development objectives of non-governmental agencies.” If you were to select this topic to write on, think about what interests you the most about it. What is the most troubling or controversial? What are the issues surrounding the topic (theoretically, and in practice)? Another option would be to select a specific project and discuss how your course work has broadened your understanding of the role of NGO’s in development processes.

2. The paper should be between 30-50 pages long. It should include a title page, table of contents, a bibliography, appendices (if relevant), and it should be technically perfect – no spelling errors or typos. In general, the paper should include a concise review of a relevant literature.

3. An outline of the paper should be presented to your advisor to be included with your other papers that have to be filed before the deadline. You should have your advisor’s approval on the contents and structure of your paper.

There are examples of integrative papers for you to look at on file in the IED/CIE program office, 374 GDH. Please feel free to come and look at them. If you have any questions, please consult your advisor. Departure from these general guidelines is permitted with the approval of the advisor.

Procedure:

Students are required to discuss their projects with their advisors and obtain advisors’ approval before undertaking the projects. Advisors are required to review project outlines before signing degree application forms. Final drafts of project papers must be submitted one month before the supplementary form is due in order to allow for revisions.

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<th>Degree Application Due</th>
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(Applications are available in the Registrar’s Office.)

Last updated: July 2003