**QUICK GUIDE FOR FACULTY − GLOBAL STUDIES THESIS SUPERVISION**

This guide offers an orientation for the colleagues across FASS Departments when supervising Honours Theses (HT) or Independent Study Modules (ISM) from Global Studies. Due to the multidisciplinary nature of the Global Studies programme, the coordination of mutual expectations between students and faculty is pivotal to make this a mutually enriching academic experience.

1. Global Studies encourages students to think broadly about various aspects of globalisation. In order to qualify as a Global Studies HT, students are expected to work on research topics that directly relate to dynamics, causes or consequences of globalisation. **Topic areas** may include, but are not limited to, processes of border-crossings; local transformations in response to global processes; changes of trans- or international institutions or laws; global ideas, ideologies, theories or norms; cosmopolitan literatures or philosopies, artistic expression, or identities. The Honours Thesis should directly engage one of the four Global Studies themes:
2. Colonialism, Security, and Global Order
3. Global Health, Environment, and Technology
4. Global Political Economy
5. Peoples, Cultures, and Globalisation
6. HTs may draw on more than one set of **disciplinary categories**. For example, it may place questions and literatures from one discipline in conversation with methodological and/or epistemological approaches from another. This may entail a degree of intellectual eclecticism that is less common to HTs written within a single discipline. However, this does not imply that colleagues should assess Global Studies HTs less rigorously than HTs in their own discipline. When having initial discussions with the student, you may advise the student to look at past Global Studies HTs written in your department to provide a frame of reference.
7. Global Studies encourages students to speak with faculty about the possibility of pursuing HTs early. Some students may approach faculty for advice as early as their second year. Such conversations can, but need not, transform into **thesis supervision**. Faculty members generally discuss ways for the student to begin framing their research questions and conducting literature reviews when first approached about the HTs. Students’ theses may reflect these conversations. If you happen to be speaking with, advising, or supervising students about HTs, please remember to inform students about any pre-requisites or coursework they should take in order to be both administratively eligible and intellectually prepared to write an HT for your department.
8. Faculty supervising HTs that involve research with **human subjects** should discuss with students the procedure for seeking departmental approval before undertaking such projects (filling up all relevant sections of the IRB application form, enclosing interview/survey questionnaires etc.).
9. In order to ensure that students follow closely and rigorously the requirement to establish the relevance of their HT projects to Global Studies, the **HT proposal** will be reviewed and approved by the HT Coordinator. The HT Coordinator may ask for ‘revise and resubmit’ to improve the proposal. For cases in which the HT Coordinator and the supervisor do not agree on the appropriateness of a proposal after revision and resubmission, the supervisor may escalate the matter to the Global Studies Convenor for resolution. If still not resolved, then the Head may be brought in for further consultation.
10. In the event that there are significant differences in **grades** awarded to a Global Studies HT by the first and second markers, colleagues from FASS may serve as a third grader to adjudicate between the first and second grader.
11. **Important dates** for the Global Studies HTs are available on the Global Studies website (<http://www.fas.nus.edu.sg/globalstudies/undergraduate/honours.html>).

Should you have any **further questions** about advising, supervising, or grading Honours Theses, please write to us: [ryan\_tan@nus.edu.sg](mailto:ryan_tan@nus.edu.sg)