

WRITING A BA ESSAY

Dear Faculty Member,

Thank you for serving as a BA advisor for a Human Rights Major. Your mentorship is a critical part of the BA process for students. Below you will find some information and guidelines about supervising and evaluating a Human Rights BA thesis. If you have any questions about the Human Rights BA thesis or what being an advisor entails, please reach out to Ben Laurence, the Coordinator of Undergraduate Studies in Human Rights at benlaurence@uchicago.edu.

Requirements

- Length: ~20-40 pages (Though you/your advisee can set different parameters as you see appropriate)
- Meetings: You should be ready to meet with your advisee at least 1 time in Spring Quarter of Year 3, and 1 time each in Autumn and Winter Quarter year 4 to discuss the thesis. (Many students will meet more frequently with their supervisors.)
- Student Deadline for Submitting the Final Draft: Friday of 5th week Spring Quarter (or the quarter in which the student plans to graduate)
- Grading deadline: faculty must submit a final grade and brief (1-2 paragraphs) remarks to Human Rights (benlaurence@uchicago.edu) by Friday of 7th week Spring Quarter (or the quarter in which the student plans to graduate)

Timeline

Autumn Quarter Year 4

Students attend the BA Essay Workshop, led by the preceptor, once every other week. In this course students are expected to draft a statement of purpose, a literature review, methodology, and a draft proposal. By end of autumn quarter, students must identify and have met with their faculty advisor at least once.

Winter Quarter

Students submit a finalized research/project proposal. As they continue to work on their project throughout the quarter, students should consider the comments from their advisor, preceptor, and peers. Students meet with faculty advisors at least once this quarter.

POZEN FAMILY
CENTER FOR
**HUMAN
RIGHTS**

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Spring Quarter

Students meet one-on-one with faculty advisor and preceptor to continue receiving feedback finalizing their project. The paper is due to the student's advisor and Human Rights (benlaurence@uchicago.edu) by Friday of Week 5. **Advisors should email the final grade and send the evaluation form to Ben Laurence (benlaurence@uchicago.edu) by the end of Week 7.** Toward the end of the quarter (usually the week of graduation), hold a celebration for students who have completed a BA Thesis and their family and friends.