The Elliott School Undergraduate Scholars program is an enhanced independent research experience for a select group of Elliott School juniors and seniors. It builds upon the standard Elliott School Independent Study and Senior Thesis models and includes additional special programming and peer support. Highlights of the program include:

- **One-credit Pass/No Pass course in the fall** (Thursdays, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm) to learn about research skills, resources and opportunities, to share research updates with peers, and to prepare to write a preliminary draft of the research paper.
- **Three-credit graded Writing in the Disciplines (WID) course in the spring** (Thursdays, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm), focusing on peer review of preliminary drafts of the research papers and completion of the final draft.
- Close work with a faculty advisor.
- Pairing with an Elliott School graduate student mentor.
- Research stipend of $500 to be used for research materials and experiences and to cover lunch with the faculty advisor and coffee with the graduate student mentor; possibility of applying for additional funding for special opportunities.
- Peer support throughout the research and writing process.
- Presentation of research at an on-campus academic conference in April.
- Publication in an academic journal (compilation of the final papers).

One of the goals of the program is to promote the student/faculty advisor relationship. As with the current Independent Study and Senior Thesis arrangements, the faculty advisor will have the following responsibilities:

- Sign the Student/Faculty Advisor Agreement.
- Meet with the student regularly during the year. The frequency of these meetings is to be determined by the student and faculty advisor.
- Assign appropriate readings.
- Inform the program administrator at the end of the fall semester as to whether the student has made sufficient progress and will be in the position to complete a rough draft by the beginning of the spring semester. This information will be used to determine the student’s grade (P/NP) for the fall course.
- Review the student’s research paper and submit a grade at the end of the year. For this program, the program administrator might confer with the faculty advisor regarding the final grade. Students are expected to attend program-related sessions and will be penalized for failing to participate. Faculty advisors will set individual paper due dates, which must fall by the last day of the spring final examination period (May 10, 2016). The Elliott School will send a grade request to the faculty advisor at the end of the spring semester and will report the grade to the Registrar.

In order to foster the relationship between student and faculty advisor, deepen the student’s engagement with the material, and maximize the quality of the research produced, faculty advisors are also asked to:

- Go out to lunch with the student once during the 2015-2016 school year. The student’s stipend will cover the cost of this lunch.
- Attend the spring class session when the student will present his/her rough draft for peer feedback. Class meets on Thursdays from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm; schedule of peer feedback sessions TBA.
- Attend the final research presentations in April 2016. Exact dates and times TBA.
Elliott School Undergraduate Scholars Paper Requirements and Guidelines

- The student will use **primary research** for the paper.
- The paper topic must be **international in scope**.
- The paper length must be at least **30 pages** (of text).
- The faculty advisor may be any **full-time GW professor** with knowledge of the student’s research topic. In certain cases, willing part-time professors may be approved to serve as faculty advisors. The student will submit a petition for this policy exception with the program application.
- The student and faculty advisor should set deadlines early each semester to ensure the completion of the paper within the appropriate timeframe. The program syllabus also sets benchmarks and deadlines.
- Final paper grades are due by the end of the spring semester. See grading information above.
- If the student is using this project to satisfy an additional requirement, such as for the University Honors Program or a Special Honors requirement in another department, the student must also abide by all relevant policies and guidelines.

**Student Name:** __________________________________________

**GWid:** ________________________________________________

**Working Title of Paper:** __________________________________

_I, the applicant, understand the requirements of this program and am committed to its goals:_

**Student Signature:** ______________________________________

**Date:** _________________________________________________

**Faculty Advisor Name:** __________________________________

**Faculty Advisor Department:** ______________________________

**Faculty Advisor Email:** __________________________________

_I, the faculty advisor, have discussed and approved the student’s topic and proposal. I understand the requirements of this program and am committed to its goals:_

**Faculty Advisor Signature:** ________________________________

**Date:** _________________________________________________

Please contact Annie Vinik, Associate Director in the Elliott School Office of Academic Advising & Student Services (avinik@gwu.edu) with questions.