

**Master of Liberal Studies
Faculty Agreement to Direct Final Project**

Student Name: _____

Project Title:

Director:

The MLS final project is the culminating educational experience of the Liberal Studies program. Since the MLS degree is not a stepping-stone to a Ph.D., the project's purpose is **not** to demonstrate that the student can contribute specialized knowledge to a particular field of study. Instead, the project provides an opportunity for students to integrate the knowledge and skills that they have gained through the program to produce independent work of the student's own design.

The project usually involves a sustained piece of writing on a topic of mutual interest to the student and faculty supervisor, but it may also involve a practical, creative, or research-based component. We hope that students' projects will integrate material or perspectives from a number of disciplines, and we encourage students to be creative and innovative in their approach. Some students will use the project semester to expand and further develop a paper written for a previous course; others will develop an idea that places their professional interests within the broader academic context of their MLS studies; still others will undertake a creative project. In all cases, however, we expect that the project will include a written, analytical component.

During the project semester(s), you should plan to meet regularly with the student. We recommend meeting about every two weeks.

Please feel free to contact April Lidinsky, interim program director at (520-4185) or e-mail her at alidinsk@iusb.edu if you have any questions.

By signing this form, you agree to the following:

I agree to supervise the final project of the above MLS student.

I have read and approved the student's final project proposal.

I have arranged a regular schedule of meetings with the student. Our next meeting is scheduled for _____. (Date)

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____