

Suggested SRP Timeline

With the exception of the registration deadline and the date by which the final paper is due, the timeline below is meant to serve as an illustrative guide. Students must work with their faculty advisors to set the specific due dates for the completion of each stage of their SRPs. Should extenuating circumstances require that a student extend his or her project beyond the semester in which it was initially registered, the student must consult with his or her faculty supervisor to determine if he or she is willing to continue serving as the supervisor for the project. Extending an SRP may have important implications on a student's registration and financial aid eligibility and students are strongly encourage to consult with their academic advisor before extending a project beyond the semester in which it was initially registered.

For Fall Registration	For Spring Registration	
March-May	October-December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Review the USFP SRP guidelines available at http://www.american.edu/sis/usfp/SRP-Guidelines.cfm. ✓ Attend the USFP SRP workshop. The date, time and location of the workshop will be announced on the USFP listserv. ✓ Begin discussing possible SRP topics with potential faculty advisors. By the end of the semester prior to registering the SRP, students should have secured a faculty advisor and defined an SRP topic.
May-August	October-January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Define a specific research question and begin developing a methodological approach to the question. ✓ Begin preparing a literature review and identifying potential sources of evidence. Students planning to conduct human subject research as defined by AU's Institution Review Board (IRB) should consult http://www.american.edu/irb and, if necessary, begin the review process. Students must receive IRB approval prior to conducting human subject research. ✓ Establish a preliminary timeline for the completion of each stage of the research project.
August-September	January-February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete the SRP proposal. ✓ Register the SRP. See http://www.american.edu/sis/gradadvising/independent-study.cfm for registration information and forms. Please consult the academic calendar at http://www1.american.edu/american/registrar/calendar_index.htm for important registration deadlines. (Students who will only be registering SRP credits in a semester must complete the registration paperwork prior to the beginning of the "late registration period" in order to avoid a \$50 late registration fee.)
Mid-October	Late-February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Complete literature review. Faculty advisors may require students to submit a literature review for their comment prior to the completion of a first draft of the entire SRP.
Early-November	Late-March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Submit completed first draft. Students are encouraged to discuss the exact date of first draft submission with their faculty advisors in advance.
December: Last Day of Classes	April: Last Day of Classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Submit final copy of the SRP no later than the last day of classes. Please consult the academic calendar at http://www1.american.edu/american/registrar/calendar_index.htm for the last day of classes. The final copy of the SRP must follow an appropriate academic format. Please consult <i>The Chicago Manual of Style</i> for the appropriate documentation and style guidelines.