

# Setting Up for Success

Ryan Blackburn | *Weekly Report 8/28 - 9/3*

After learning more of how to conduct myself in a professional manner and determining the core values behind my ISM experience, I have set off to create a base for myself that will expand my opportunities to learn more about my topic. This week, I worked to format my website and create a logo to present myself both more formally and with a sense of dedication. From this, I found myself more in love with understanding more about my topic, as from organizing my future projects and research, I was able to review various fields of study to analyze and relate back to a central theme of civic participation.

In addition, the creation of my website raised critical questions that are to be answered as the year moves along: what projects could be done as either my Original Work or Final Product that would encompass the values behind my ISM Mission Statement? Not only that, but how can I relate my theme of political awareness and the expression of civil liberties to my mentorship? As my ISM journey progresses, these questions' answers should come to light so to aid others in fulfilling their civic duty.

In concordance to processing such significant questions, I was able to discover more of my own ambitions and path towards fulfilling my goal on an international scale. In preparation for my first introductory speech, both my motives and their roots in my past were discovered, ultimately leading to further understanding of how they will propel my aspirations towards reality. Hopefully, through constant determination and true intent, I

will be able to utilize what I have created in ISM for future endeavors towards broader and more widespread understanding of an individual's civic duty.