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Office hours: Mon. 2:00pm–4:00pm, Tues. 4:15pm–5:00pm  
(<http://doodle.com/poll/fisuu7z3ck4tidcu>)

## SENIOR HONORS SEMINAR

100.507: Fall 2016

### Overview:

The Senior Honors Seminar is a coordinating workshop for students who are writing a senior thesis. It provides background information on the process of researching and writing a thesis, a forum in which students can engage in shared editing and problem-solving, and an additional layer of support for students and their advisors. It meets roughly eight times per semester.

### Texts:

#### *Bookstore:*

- Wayne C. Booth, Gregory G. Colomb, & Joseph M. Williams, *The Craft of Research*, 3rd ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2008).
- Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2013).

#### *Reserves (available as supplementary resources):*

- Jean Johnson, *Bedford Guide to the Research Process*, 3rd edition (Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 1997).
- Richard Marius and Melvin E. Page, *A Short Guide to Writing about History*, 8th edition (Boston: Pearson, 2012).
- Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*, 7th edition (New York: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2012).
- Richard Lanham, *Revising Prose*, 5th edition (New York: Pearson Longman, 2007).
- William Strunk and E.B. White, *The Elements of Style* (New York: Pearson Longman, 2009). Also available online via Hopkins library:  
[https://catalyst.library.jhu.edu/catalog/bib\\_4775940](https://catalyst.library.jhu.edu/catalog/bib_4775940).
- William Zinsser, *On Writing Well* (New York: Harper, 2006).

#### *E-Reserves:*

- All readings marked with an asterisk are available on E-Reserves via the course site on Blackboard.

### **Ethics and Accommodations:**

The strength of the university depends on academic and personal integrity. In writing the senior thesis, you must be honest and truthful. Ethical violations include plagiarism, reuse of assignments, improper use of the Internet and electronic devices, unauthorized collaboration, alteration of graded assignments, forgery and falsification, lying, facilitating academic dishonesty, and unfair competition. Please report any violations you witness to the instructor. You may consult the associate dean of student affairs and/or the chairman of the Ethics Board beforehand. See the guide on "Academic Ethics for Undergraduates" and the Ethics Board Web site (<http://e-catalog.jhu.edu/undergrad-students/student-life-policies/#UAEB>) for more information.

Any student with a disability who may need accommodations in the process of writing a senior thesis should obtain a letter from Student Disability Services, 385 Garland, (410) 516-4720, [studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu](mailto:studentdisabilityservices@jhu.edu).

### **Meetings (Wednesdays from 1:30–3:50pm):**

**Wednesday, September 7: Introduction to the Senior Thesis Process**

**Wednesday, September 14: Elements of a Successful Thesis**

*Discussion:*

- Hour 1: Discussion of prize-winning thesis from 2015–2016 (Davis, "Instrument of Empire").
- Hour 2: Panel of past thesis writers.

*Readings:*

- Anna Davis, "Instrument of Empire: Logwood and the Making and Unmaking of British Imperial Agendas, 1680–1720," Senior Thesis, 2016. E-Reserves.
- Optional: Browse other 2015–2016 Senior Theses available on E-Reserves.

**Wednesday, September 21: Defining a Research Topic**

*Readings:*

- Booth, *Craft of Research*, ch. 3 (pp. 35–48), ch. 4 (pp. 51–65), ch. 6 (pp. 84–100).

*Assignments:*

- Schedule a meeting with the History liaison librarian for the week of September 26–30.

**Wednesday, September 28: NO MEETING**

*Assignments:*

- Group A: submit topic/thesis paragraphs and data samples via Blackboard or to my campus mailbox (in Gilman 301) by Friday 9/30 at 4:00pm.

**Wednesday, October 5: Workshop I, Thesis Paragraphs and Data Sources**

*Discussion:*

- Presentations from Group A.

*Readings:*

- Handout: Erin Rowe, "How to Read a Primary Source."

**Wednesday, October 12: NO MEETING**

*Assignments:*

- Group B: submit topic/thesis paragraphs and data samples via Blackboard or to my campus mailbox (in Gilman 301) by Friday 10/14 at 4:00pm.

**Wednesday, October 19: Workshop II, Thesis Paragraphs and Data Sources**

*Discussion:*

- Presentations from Group B.

**Wednesday, October 26: NO MEETING**

**Wednesday, November 2: Research Strategies; Avoiding Inadvertent Plagiarism**

*Readings:*

- Handout: "How to Write a Short Proposal"
- Booth, *Craft of Research*, ch. 13, pp. 191–196.
- \*Rampolla, *Pocket Guide*, ch. 6, pp. 98–105.

**Wednesday, November 9: NO MEETING**

*Assignments:*

- Research proposals due via Blackboard by Friday 11/11 at 4:00pm.

**Wednesday, November 16: Proposals**

*Readings:*

- Classmates' proposals (bundled and posted on Blackboard).

**Wednesday, November 23: THANKSGIVING VACATION**

**Wednesday, November 30: NO MEETING**

**Wednesday, December 7: Introductions and Conclusions**

*Readings:*

- Booth, ch. 16 (pp. 232–248).

- Handout: "Elements of an Introduction."
- Handout: Sample introductions.

**Spring Deadlines:**

*March 6–10: Complete working drafts due to advisors*

*March 27–31: Provisional clearance for honors*

*April 10–14: Undergraduate Research Day*

*April 14: Kouguell Prize deadline*

*April 17–21: All remaining theses due to advisors*

*April 29: Final grades due*

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## **SENIOR HONORS SEMINAR**

100.508: Spring 2017

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### **Meetings (Wednesdays from 1:30–3:50pm):**

#### **Wednesday, February 1: Elements of a Successful Thesis II**

##### *Readings:*

- Kevin Cryan, "'Welding the Nation': An Experiment in Associational Government During the Great War"

#### **Wednesday, February 8: NO MEETING**

##### *Assignments:*

- Group A: one substantial section (10–20pp.) due via Blackboard on Friday 2/10 by 4:00pm.

#### **Wednesday, February 15: Workshop I**

##### *Readings:*

- Sections by classmates in Group A.
- Booth, *Craft of Research*, 187–91.

##### *Assignments:*

- Group B: one substantial section (10–20pp.) due via Blackboard on Friday 2/17 by 4:00pm.

#### **Wednesday, February 22: Workshop II**

##### *Readings:*

- Sections by classmates in Group B.

##### *Assignments:*

- All students: introductions due via Blackboard on Friday 2/24 by 11:00pm.

#### **Wednesday, March 1: Introductions and Conclusions**

##### *Readings:*

- Classmates' introductions (posted on Blackboard).

**Wednesday, March 8: Open Door Working Session (Voluntary)**

*Discussion:*

- Sign up for a half-hour meeting via Doodle.

**Friday, March 10:  
WORKING DRAFTS DUE TO ADVISORS**

**Wednesday, March 15: Revising**

*Readings:*

- Booth, ch. 16 (pp. 249–267).
- \*Zinsser, *On Writing Well*, pp. 6–11, 67–77, 83–88.
- Sample paragraphs.

**Wednesday, March 22: SPRING BREAK**

**Wednesday, March 29: Open Door Working Session (Voluntary)**

*Discussion:*

- Sign up for a half-hour meeting via Doodle.

**Friday March 31:  
PROVISIONAL CLEARANCE FOR HONORS**

**Wednesday, April 5: NO MEETING**

**Wednesday, April 12: Undergraduate Research Day**

*Discussion:*

- Final preparation for Undergraduate Research Day (participating students only).

**Thursday, April 13, 3:00–6:00pm:  
UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH DAY**

**Friday, April 14, 12:00pm:  
DRAFTS/NOMINATIONS DUE TO DEPT. FOR KOUQUELL PRIZE**

**Friday, April 21, 12:00pm:  
REMAINING THESES DUE TO ADVISORS**

**Wednesday, April 19: Concluding session**

*Discussion:*

- Final questions prior to submission; review of senior thesis process and undergraduate experience.

**Friday, April 29:  
FINAL GRADES DUE**

**Early May:  
HISTORY DEPARTMENT PARTY (Kouguell Prize Awarded)**