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:


Reserves (available as supplementary resources):


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.

**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 2: Panel of past thesis writers.

*Readings:*
- 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”

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
SENIOR HONORS SEMINAR

100.508: Spring 2017

Overview:

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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.

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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.

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).
• 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 KOUGUELL 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)