

**History 502: Senior Honors Seminar**  
**Spring 2014**  
**Mondays, 7:00-9:00**  
**Wilder 215**

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Office Hours:  
Mondays, 10:00-12:00  
Thursdays, 1:30-3:30  
(and by appointment)

This semester, the honors seminar will operate as a writing workshop. Everyone will have the opportunity to present their work to the group three times—at this stage, you should be submitting full or nearly full drafts of chapters for review for your sessions. At most sessions, we will set aside the first part of the class to focus on one aspect of the thesis writing process (introduction, conclusions, etc.). There will also be time every week to pose questions to the group or to seek advice. If you would like feedback on material outside of your regular schedule for review, you may send your material around before the class meeting and we will discuss it if there is time.

When you are on schedule to present your writing to the group, please be sure to upload your writing sample to the blackboard site by **noon on Sunday** before the Monday session. All students should read the posted submissions before the Monday session and should fill out the writing response form before coming to class.

**Meeting Schedule:**

February 3rd: Welcome Back/Updates

*This session will be devoted to hearing updates about what was accomplished over winter term, talking about current challenges, and planning writing schedules for the spring. Please post an update on what you accomplished over Winter Term and a proposed writing/revising schedule for your spring semester on the blackboard site by 10 p.m. on Sunday night. Keep in mind that theses are due Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. At this session we will establish the semester's writing presentation schedule.*

February 10<sup>th</sup>: Writing Workshop (Group One)

*It's time to start turning in chapters! Group one, upload a chapter of your thesis to the blackboard site by noon on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup>; when you post, be sure to tell us what you would like readers to pay particular attention to as they go over your chapter. **Everyone** should read the submissions and fill out the writing response form before Monday's class session*

February 17th: Writing Workshop (Group 2)

*The topic for discussion tonight is **Introductions**. Before coming to class, please look at the introductions to three books you have in your room or that you are reading for class. What elements do they all share? How do they differ? What needs to be in your introduction?*

February 24: Writing Workshop (Group 3)

March 3: Writing Workshop (Group 1)

*The topic for discussion tonight is **Conclusions**. Before coming to class, please look at the conclusions to three books you have in your room or that you are reading for class. What elements do they share? How do they differ? What needs to be in your conclusion?*

March 10: Writing Workshop (Group 2)

March 17: Writing Workshop (Group 3)

*The topic for discussion this session is **bibliographies and footnotes**. Please come to this session with your most pesky footnote questions and for your plans on how you intend to organize your bibliography.*

### **Spring Break**

April 3: Writing Workshop (Group 1)

*The topic for discussion this session is **final editing** for repetition, coherency, and style.*

April 10: Writing Workshop (Group 2)

*The topic for discussion this session is **formatting** of the thesis.*

April 17: Writing Workshop (Group 3)

*The topic for discussion this session will be the **public honors presentation**, which will take place in May.*

April 24: Preparing for oral exams

*At this session, we will break into smaller groups and each of you will participate in a short mock oral exam.*

Friday, April 28: **THESES DUE BY 4:00 p.m.**—Present copies to your readers by 4 p.m. today

Post-April 27: Celebration/Party—date TBA

Week of May 12: Public Honors Presentations, 12:00-2:00 (**Time and Date tentative, place TBA**)