

IDSVA SYLLABUS
Seminar VII
Work Planning, Sustainable Research, First Chapters

Course Number:	904
Course Name:	Seminar VII: Work Planning, Sustainable Research, First Chapters
Dates:	January 10 - May 14, 2011 (Spring Break: March 7 – 11)
Format:	Online & Teleconference
Instructor:	Professor Seth Kim-Cohen
Credits:	5

Course Description:

In Seminar VII we will generate a long-term work plan for dissertation research and writing. During the semester, you will write either an introduction or a first chapter of your dissertation. You will continue to read the titles on your list of twenty-five for the Preliminary Oral Examination. During one-on-one conference calls and conference calls we will discuss techniques for efficient and sustainable research.

Learning Objectives:

Seminar VII will address how to plan for a long-term research project, helping students to create reasonable deadlines, conduct efficient research, and balance the simultaneous advancement of writing and scholarship. The submitted writing assignment will be considered the student's Preliminary Written Exam.

Course Requirements:

Each student will produce an introduction or first chapter of the dissertation of between 5,000 and 8,000 words. This written work will be considered the student's Preliminary Written Exam. Professor Kim-Cohen will conduct individual telephone calls every other week, starting the second week of the course. During these calls we will discuss the progress of the chapter. Chapters should be submitted to Professor Kim-Cohen via FirstClass and to IDSVA Submission Storage. Submitted documents must be titled with both the document name and email subject line according to the following format:

familyname, givenname_904_yymmdd

(e.g., "Jones, Sally_904_100223").

Late submissions will be accepted but not given credit unless prior arrangements have been made with Professor Kim-Cohen. Extensions are granted on a case-by-case basis in response to special circumstances.

Assessment:

Grades will be determined according to the following criteria:

Contributions to discussions on Dissertation Seminar Forum and seminar conference calls (10%);

Individual calls with Professor Kim-Cohen (10%);

Written introduction or chapter (80%).

Writing and Presentation Schedule:

REMEMBER: THE CHAPTER YOU PRODUCE IN THIS SEMINAR WILL BE SUBMITTED AS YOUR PRELIMINARY WRITTEN EXAMINATION. YOU MUST PASS THIS EXAMINATION TO PROCEED TO THE FOURTH YEAR AND YOUR DISSERTATION.

The semester is divided into 6 cycles. Each cycle constitutes the completion of a given word count for the chapter/exam. With the exception of Cycles 1 and 6, each cycle is 3 weeks long.

Each week, three students will submit their newest written work to Professor Kim-Cohen, who will return comments within a week. **Note:** Each cycle students should submit only new work, not the cumulative chapter to date. Documents must be titled according to the following format: **familyname, givenname_SemVII_yymmdd**.

Additionally, for cycles 2, 3, and 4, three students will post their most recent work (produced since the last cycle) to Dissertation Seminar Forum (DSF). The other six students are expected to read and discuss these submissions on DSF and in the subsequent conference call.

You must use the Chicago Manual of Style humanities style, including foot notes (or end notes) and a bibliography. You can access the Chicago Manual of Style through the IDSVA library. As a rule of thumb, a chapter of this length should include a minimum of 25 notes and a bibliography of no fewer than 8 titles.