

**E10.3005 Dissertation Workshop**

10hours: 1 credit

**Instructor:** Elizabeth Norman PhD, Professor  
**Contact info:** (212) 998-5412  
[elizabeth.norman@nyu.edu](mailto:elizabeth.norman@nyu.edu)  
**Office hours:** By appointment,  
246 Greene St, Room 510

**Time:** Monday: 6:20- 8:25 p.m.  
9/11, 10/6, 11/13, 12/11  
**Location:** TBA

**Description:** A monthly workshop designed to enhance research skills, build support systems, and develop strategies for sustaining progress and completing the dissertation. This course is offered on a pass/fail basis.

**Pre-requisite:** Dissertation Proposal Seminar or equivalent.  
Permission of student's dissertation chair or advisor.

**Objectives:** Students will be able to:

1. Assess their personal research skills to identify strengths and weaknesses related to their dissertations.
2. Develop a plan to strengthen their research competence.
3. Construct a support system to facilitate completion of the dissertation.
4. Design and implement strategies to facilitate progress towards completion of a dissertation.
5. Engage in a scholarly discourse with faculty and other doctoral students.

**Suggested Reading:**

Bolker, Joan (1998) Writing Your Dissertation in Fifteen Minutes a Day: A Guide to Starting, Revising, and Finishing Your Doctoral Thesis (Paperback). New York: Owl Books

**Required books:**

A style manual: American Psychological Association (2001). Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 5th edition. Washington, DC: APA. OR the Chicago Manual of Style (2003) or MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers (2003).

A dictionary and a thesaurus of your choice.

New York University • The Steinhardt School of Education  
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences

**Course requirements:**

Student must have an active email account. Active participation is vital to the success of this workshop. (Better to be insightful than voluble!)

**Course Schedule:** The workshop meets monthly for 2 ¼ hours. Since this workshop is designed to complement and augment individual learning activities conducted with the student's dissertation chair and committee, students are expected to meet regularly with their chair/committees throughout the semester.

Session topics may change depending on the needs of workshop participants.

Session I  
September 11

Introduction/Workshop Overview  
Report on individual progress over the summer  
Assessing your research skills  
Resources for doctoral students  
Working with a dissertation committee

Session II  
October 6

Individual progress reports  
Evaluation of student's research design:  
(Quantitative, Qualitative and Mixed methods)  
IRB Applications-Getting started  
Accessing/using library databases and bibliographic  
management software  
Maintaining momentum

Session III  
November 13

Individual progress reports  
Evaluation of students plans for data analysis  
(Quantitative, Qualitative and Mixed methods)  
Review of students IRB applications

Session IV  
December 11

Individual progress reports  
Maximizing a support system  
Strategies to maintain momentum  
Preparing for oral presentations/defense  
Goals for the upcoming semester

5/30/06