Course Description
This course is designed to support your progress in writing the thesis. Students will be introduced to various aspects of the writing process and participate in peer-reviewing and critique. We will discuss and gain an understanding of how academic discourse is generated within scholarly communities and how scholars position their writing within spheres of intellectual debate. The course will offer opportunities to workshop drafts, engage with feedback and incorporate critique. The course will provide you the tools and the learning environment to make significant progress towards the writing of your thesis.

Course Objectives
At the end of the course students should be able to
• integrate the knowledge from the course to the process of completing the thesis
• participate in the collaborative process of editing, critiquing and reviewing academic writing
• incorporate skills and discipline to undertake academic writing
• understand/appreciate different forms of academic writing and research presentations

Grading
Your grade in this course requires the successful completion of all requirements including drafts, assignments, presentations.
Main Assignments include:
1& 2) Introduction/Draft of research questions & Rationale (at least 10 pages)
3) Literature Review (at least 10 pages)
4) Preliminary Draft of Methods & Justification (at least 6 pages)

Course grade will be based on
• Assignments - 50%
• Participation (includes reading reports, peer reviewing, engagement with class discussions) – 50%

Participation
This course is an opportunity for you to practice and think seriously about the craft of research, writing and collaborative review. Hence I expect students to have a sense of commitment and demonstrate high level of collegiality and responsibility. This entails regular attendance, completion of all requirements including writing, presentations and postings as required. You will be required to bring in samples of writing from your own research areas to serve as models for discussion in class. You will also be required to present your work and provide constructive feedback to your peers.

Participation is about engaging in all these activities and being an active member of the writing seminar.

_Academic Integrity_
This is a course on writing and hence we are even more sensitive to issues of originality and academic integrity. Academic honesty is of utmost importance and any violation will result in grave consequences. The NYU Steinhardt Statement on Academic Integrity, consistent with New York University Policy on Student Conduct, is published in the NYU Student Guide. Please read it carefully to understand what constitutes plagiarism.

_Required Texts_

Other readings will be posted on Blackboard when required.

_Highly Recommended_
Bui, Yvonne (2014) _How to write a Master’s Thesis_. Sage Publication.


_Recommended_


Bolker, Joan, (1998) _Writing your dissertation in fifteen minutes a day_. NY: Henry Holt
Latest edition of a style manual – Chicago, APA or MLA

SCHEDULE

Week 1: September 9
Introduction to Course/Expectations
Overview – Academic writing; Conceptualizing and writing a thesis; Writing Process
Due next class: Statement of research problem/Research Questions; Thesis timeline and tasks.

Week 2: September 16
Articulation and focus
Becker and Richards: Chaps 1 & 5
*Due: Statement of the research Problem/Questions

Week 3: September 23
Research with Human Subjects
Guest lecture by Dr. Jane McCutcheon

Week 4: September 30
Rationale for research
Graff & Birkenstein, Part 1 and 2
*Due: Draft rationale

Week 5: October 7
Situating the research field
Collaborative review
Graff & Birkenstein: Part 3 and Readings section
*Due: Draft of Opening section - Introduction, statement and rationale (at least 10 pages)

Week 6: October 14  FALL BREAK NO CLASS

Week 7: October 21
Literature Review
Becker & Richards Chps 2 & 8
Due: Samples of Literature Review – Come prepared with a journal article in your area of study and deconstruct the style of literature review employed by the author(s)

Week 8: October 28
Methods – choice and rationale
Readings: Chaps by Gill; Benzecry (posted on Blackboard)

Week 9: November 4
Peer Review/Feedback on Literature Review
Becker & Richards Chps 3 & 4
Due: Draft of Literature Review (at least 10 pages)

Week 10: November 11
Discussion on methods

Week 11: November 18
Workshop – Writing Bootcamp

Week 12: November 25
Findings and Significance
Becker & Richards Chps 6 & 7

Week 13: December 2
Peer Review
Due: Methods/Justification (at least 6-7 pages)

Week 14: December 9 & December 11
Wrap up and Presentations/Consultation