



FOUNDATIONAL AND RESEARCH SEMINARS

ACS 700 Critical Writing and Thinking I: Explorations

Introduction to alternative approaches to writing within the context of advanced study. Focuses on processes of revision for the purpose of strengthening the perspective or argument within a body of writing.

ACS 705 Critical Writing and Thinking II: Analysis and Synthesis as Inquiry

Focus on providing practical guidance synthesizing literature to further strengthen writing through alternative approaches (fiction, creative non-fiction, poetry, analysis and argument) that develop insights, arguments and the generation of interpretations.

FNDS 701 Ethics and Social Justice

Examination of alternative conceptions of ethics and exploration of the implications for social justice. Focuses on developing a theoretical foundation and critical engagement of classic texts and contemporary theories.

FNDS 702 The Creative Process

Exploration of historical and contemporary theories regarding the source, nature, and development of creativity. Focuses on examining the creative person, process, product, and environment by viewing these through the eyes of creative individuals themselves as well as through those of the most eminent theorists, philosophers, and researchers in the field.

FNDS 703 Engaging Difference

Exploration of the dimensions and dynamics of difference and their implications for interdisciplinary study and social change. Focuses on the various ways in which "self" and "other" are constructed and interact within multiple theoretical perspectives and worldviews.

RMTH 783 Research Methods I: Research Design and Methods

The course will introduce students to doctoral level inquiry in four domains: (1) arts, (2) humanities, (3) social sciences, and (4) education and professional practice. Consideration will be given to the kinds of questions each domain invokes, the kinds of methods each domain engages, alternative theoretical orientations which drive diverse methods, and the potential contributions and limitations of research in each of the four domains. Special attention will be given to the four program majors within the Ph.D. curriculum (Humanities and Culture, Ethical and Creative Leadership, Public Policy & Social Change, and Educational Studies.) This course is the first in a series of courses designed to prepare students to launch their original doctoral dissertations.

RMTH 787 Research Methods III: Designing Interdisciplinary Research

This seminar explores interdisciplinary approaches to research and affords students the opportunity to develop and practice design skills for their own dissertation projects. The Research Methodology Proficiency Review is part of this seminar.

RMTH 709 Research Methods II: Inquiry in the Humanities

Critical exploration of various rhetorical models of thought to explore, compare, and contrast ways of thinking, ways of seeing, and ways of characterizing cultural experiences in one or more of five major areas: the arts, literature, history, foreign language, and cultural studies. Focuses on how humans make meaning of their experience.

RMTH 710 Research Methods II: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methodologies

Examination of how and when to use quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods in research. Explores various aspects of different research designs such as outcome studies, randomized controlled blinded studies, interviews, polling, cross-over study designs, and surveys, among others. Reviews examples of study designs from social science, psychology, health studies, education, public policy, and business.

REQUIRED CORE SEMINARS

ECL 710 Foundations of Ethical and Creative Leadership

Introduction to classic and contemporary theories and models of leadership. Focuses on (1) the intersection of leadership, ethics, and creativity; (2) the historical, philosophical, and moral contexts of leadership; and (3) leader/follower relationships in the attainment of organizational and societal goals.

ECL 720 Ethical and Creative Leadership in Group Dynamics, Organizations and Society

Introduction to theories and models of leadership within groups, including small informal groups, groups within communities and organizations, and groups within society. Focuses on analysis of group dynamics and processes within the contexts of power, conflict, cooperation, creativity, diversity, ethics and values, and change.

EDST 710 Education, Society and Culture

This seminar examines historical and philosophical foundations of education in the U.S. and explores the interplay between educational institutions (Pre-K -12 and higher education) and other political, social, and cultural institutions. Particular attention is given to issues of diversity in contemporary U.S. education.

EDST 720 Curriculum and Social Justice

The seminar will comprise a study of current curriculum innovations and their underlying theoretical bases with a focus on social justice models. Emphasis is given to current research implementation of curricular models in the K-12 and higher education settings and the translation of effective curriculum designs into practice.

HMS 710 Building the Canon: Historical Survey

Examination of some of the ideas that have shaped human history from ancient times to the Enlightenment. Focuses on a broadly inclusive approach to the study of humanities looking at philosophy, religion, music, painting, architecture, sculpture, and tapestry, as well as multiple genres of literature – poetry, history, epic, sacred scripture, drama, short story, essay, treatise, and novel.

HMS 720 Critiquing the Canon: The Idea of Progress

Exploration of the idea of progress from a multitude of disciplinary perspectives (history, philosophy, economics, biology, literature, the arts, etc.) and investigation of its uses and abuses.

PPS 711 Policy Processes and Social Change

Examination of a variety of theoretical frameworks that address both the substance of public policy and the processes of policymaking. Special emphasis is given to the underlying assumptions, values, and views of political reality that inform the policy frameworks.

PPS 733 Policy Analysis

Examination of the theoretical and methodological ideas, characteristics, and assumptions of different types of policy analysis and policy analytic techniques. Focuses on approaches that represent traditional and contemporary forms of policy analysis.

SAMPLE ADVANCED SEMINARS

ECL 812 Leadership for a Complex World

Exploration of complexity theory, systems theory, futures studies, integral theory and emergent leadership in the context of a complex and rapidly changing world.

ECL 817 Protest, Social Movements, and Social Change

Study of theories of social change and the roles of protests and collective action (including social movements) in channeling injustice into social change.

EDST 821 Educating for Democracy and Social Justice: Critical Pedagogy and Pragmatism

This seminar investigates the Critical Pedagogy of Paulo Freire and the Educational Pragmatism of John Dewey with emphasis on narrative constructions of identity, cultural conditioning, and the links among theory, practice and justice. Particular attention will be paid to the role of power and privilege in both individual and institutional interactions. The concept of social justice will be explored from various perspectives and theoretical frameworks.

EDST 826 Race, Racism and Critical Race Theory in Education

This seminar will explore the role that race features in the classroom and beyond, broadening students' understanding of institutional racism in its visible and invisible forms. Historical perspectives will be studied to inform students' ability to grapple with and call into question the assumptive foundations of racism and its effects on marginalized peoples as well as on dominant groups. Strategies for creating classrooms, schools, and communities of equity without erasing difference will be theorized.

HMS 809 Critical Theory

Exploration of the most basic questions about literature and reading. Focuses on the relationship between literary representation and reality. Examines the kinds of relationships possible between a literary text and a reader and the political and cultural work of literature.

HMS 802 Memoir and Identity

Examination of the origins, evolution, and contemporary practice of life-writing (with references to autobiography, biography, and other related forms) with specific focus on personal, social, and cultural identities. Introduces the core questions and issues raised in memoir writing particularly as related to identity, diversity issues, and social justice and the relationship between public and private identities.

HMS 824 Democracy and Difference

Examination of classical conceptions of democracy and contemporary democratic theories (liberal, deliberative, communitarian, and agonistic). Focuses on the ways each theory neglects or addresses the continuing persistence of inequalities within democracy including inequalities of class/economy, sexuality/gender, and race/ethnicity.

PPS 801 Conflict Resolution: Negotiation, Power, and Influence

Examination of the role of negotiation, power, and influence in conflict resolution. Focuses on different types of conflict and the techniques and processes whereby conflicts have been or can be resolved.

PPS 813 Critical Perspectives in Health Policy

This course employs an interdisciplinary approach to health policy as it examines the social environment and economic and political factors that shape disease and health across societies. Principles that will be considered are social justice, human rights, and equity as they relate to global and local health. Special attention will be paid to health disparities related to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and social class. The course will explore the role of state and civil society in promoting health and providing care and consider the ways in which structural factors create and maintain health inequities.