

# Anthropology Honors Thesis Writing Seminar

Anth H191W



Spring 2017

Tues/Thurs  
11am-12:20pm

SBSG 3200

## COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

Welcome to the fourth and final quarter of the Anthropology Honors Program!

In previous quarters, you identified your research questions, designed your methodological approach, received ethics approval, and began the process of collecting data. In this course, you will analyze your data, write and revise the complete draft of your thesis, give a professional presentation, and develop a plan for disseminating your research.

The main goal of the course is for you to produce original anthropological research that contributes new ideas and perspectives to the field. To that end, the course is designed to build on and strengthen the skills you have developed as an Anthropology major at UCI, including:

- Critical review of and engagement with scholarly literature
- Ethnographic analysis and interpretive techniques
- Written and oral communication

We will work in close collaboration with your thesis advisor. You should plan to meet regularly with your advisor throughout the quarter to ensure that you are making adequate progress toward your thesis.

Enrollment in this course is restricted to students in the Anthropology Honors Program who are completing senior thesis research.

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### Course Materials

All course materials can be accessed through the website at:  
<https://canvas.eee.uci.edu/courses/4956>



## RESOURCES

The following resources are  
RECOMMENDED:

### General Writing

Graff, Gerald and Cathy Birkenstein. 2017. *They Say, I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.

Strunk, William and E.B. White. 2013. *The Elements of Style*. 5<sup>th</sup> edition.

Truss, Lynne. 2006. *Eats, Shoots & Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation*.

### Anthropology Research & Writing

Emerson, Fretz and Shaw. 2011. *Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.

Narayan, Kirin. 2012. *Alive in the Writing: Crafting Ethnography in the Company of Chekhov*.

Van Maanen, John. 2011. *Tales of the Field: On Writing Ethnography*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition.

### Campus Resources

UCI Center for Excellence in Writing & Communication:

<http://www.writingcenter.uci.edu/>

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

### 1) Class Activities (15%)

This course will be conducted as a seminar workshop, and your attendance and active engagement are essential. A series of in-class exercises will guide you through the application of various analytical and writing techniques.

### 2) Thesis Steps (50%)

The main goal of this course is for you to produce an original, clearly argued, and polished Honors Thesis. You will turn in drafts of your thesis in several intermediary steps, including (but not limited to):

- a. Preliminary literature review section
- b. Research design/methods sections
- c. Full-ish first draft (with full results/analysis sections)
- d. Final-ish draft

### 3) Peer Reviews (15%)

This class will include extensive peer review and discussion of each students' work. You are expected to engage in close reading of your colleagues' work and to offer detailed, thoughtful feedback. You can expect to also receive such feedback from your colleagues.

### 4) Presentation (10%)

You will develop a professional presentation based on your research and deliver it to the class. This may be EITHER an oral or a poster presentation. For those of you who will be preparing for the UROP Symposium, this in-class presentation will be a good opportunity to practice and hear feedback.

### 5) Reflection Letter (10%)

This final assignment asks you to reflect on the work you have accomplished throughout the Honors Program and to discuss your development as a thinker, writer, and communicator.

## GRADING

All assignments in this course will be graded on a satisfactory/unsatisfactory basis. To achieve a satisfactory grade, you must complete assignments on time (including class activities & peer reviews) and meet all specified requirements.

Satisfactory completion of all course requirements will result in an "A" in the course.

## COURSE SCHEDULE

TOPIC	DATE	WHAT TO READ	WHAT'S DUE?
Week 1: Introduction to the Course	Tues, 4/4	No readings.	Progress report (1-2 pages)
	Thurs, 4/6	Hamada, Farley. 2011. "Of Plight and Providence: Big Pharma and the Effects of Pharmaceutical Advertising on Patients with RLS, Insomnia, GERD, and GAD." Anthro Honors Thesis, UCI  Hakim, Hadia. 2009. "Palestinian Identity-Formation in Yormouk: Constructing National Identity through the Development of Space." Anthro Honors Thesis, UCI.	Make an appointment with your advisor
Week 2: Reviewing the Literature and Defining Your Own Contributions	Tues, 4/11	Graff and Birkenstein. 2017. "They Say" and "Her Point Is." Pgs. 19-41 in <i>They Say, I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing</i> .  See online resources on using the library, literature searches, and mind-mapping	
	Thurs, 4/13	Graff and Birkenstein. 2017. "Yes/No/Okay, But" and "And Yet." Pgs. 55-77 in <i>They Say, I Say: The Moves that Matter in Academic Writing</i> .  See online resources on avoiding plagiarism and AAA/Chicago citation style	1-2 paragraphs of your literature review applying any of the templates suggested by Graff & Birkenstein
Week 3: Working with Data	Tues, 4/18	Galman, Sally Campbell. 2007. "Dealing with and analyzing data." Pg. 79-96 in <i>Shane, The Lone Ethnographer</i> .	Background/Literature review preliminary draft (at least 5 pages + outline of any undrafted sections)
	Thurs, 4/20	Emerson et al. 1995. "Processing Fieldnotes: Coding and Memoing." Pg. 142-168 in <i>Writing Ethnographic Fieldnotes</i> .	Bring 2-3 pages of your fieldnotes (5 copies) to class (we will practice coding together)
Week 4: Ethnographic Writing	Tues, 4/25	Narayan, Kirin. 2012. "Place." Pg. 23-44, <i>Alive in the Writing</i> .	Research design and/or methods sections
	Thurs, 4/27	Narayan, Kirin. 2012. "Person." Pg. 45-66, <i>Alive in the Writing</i> .	One exercise (your choice) from Narayan's chapters

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Week 5: Style and Clarity	Tues, 5/2	Williams and Bizup. 2014. "Cohesion and Coherence" and "Concision." Pgs. 66-79 and 126-142 in <i>Style: Lessons in Clarity and Grace</i> .	
	Thurs, 5/4	No readings.	Full-ish draft: --Submit for Malinowski prize --Distribute to professor & classmates
Week 6: Workshopping	Tues, 5/9	Two students' drafts (to be assigned)	Peer reviews of colleagues' drafts (in class)
	Thurs, 5/11	Two students' drafts (to be assigned)	Peer reviews of colleagues' drafts (in class)
Monday, May 15: Full first draft of thesis to your advisor			
Week 7: Developing a Presentation	Tues, 5/16	Edwards, Paul N. 2004. "How to Give an Academic Talk: Changing the Culture of Public Speaking in the Humanities."  Miller and Trainor. 2008. "Creating Anthropology Conference Posters: A Guide for Beginners."	
	Thurs, 5/18	No readings.	Presentations in class
Saturday, May 20: UROP Symposium			
Week 8: Revision and Editing	Tues, 5/23	Bolker, Joan. 1998. "Revising: The Second Draft and Beyond." Pg. 116-126 in <i>Writing Your Dissertation in 15 Minutes a Day</i> .  Recommended: Becker, Howard S. 2007. "Editing by Ear." Pg. 68-89 in <i>Writing for Social Scientists</i> .	
	Thurs, 5/25	No readings.	Final-ish draft (with 2-3 pages annotated) --Distribute to professor and classmates

## COURSE SCHEDULE

TOPIC	DATE	WHAT TO READ	WHAT'S DUE?
Week 9: Workshopping	Tues, 5/30	Two students' drafts (to be assigned)	Peer reviews of colleagues' drafts (in class)
	Thurs, 6/1	Two students' drafts (to be assigned)	Peer reviews of colleagues' drafts (in class)
Friday, June 2: Final draft of thesis to your advisor			
Week 10 Getting it Out There: Academic Journals and Beyond	Tues, 6/6	Boellstorff, Tom. 2011. "Submission and Acceptance: Where, Why, and How to Publish Your Article." <i>American Anthropologist</i> 113(3): 383-388.  Scott, DeWitt. 2015. "Op-Ed vs. Scholarly Journals: The case for publishing your ideas beyond the academic journal circuit." <i>Inside Higher Ed</i>	
	Thurs, 6/8	No readings.	Annotated list of 3-5 potential publication venues
Final Exam	Tues, 6/13	Reflection letter due	

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