MIN 5801 Divinity and M.A. Colloquium

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DATES: Fall 2013 **TIME:** 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

For many graduate students, the thesis writing process can be overwhelming and confusing. The Divinity Colloquium will help demystify this daunting process through a seminar that is part support group, part motivational program, and part collective ideas factory. Through discussions and lectures, the Divinity Colloquium will help students select, refine, and draft their thesis proposal as well as providing practical advice and support with thesis research and mechanics.

COURSE OUTCOME:

To assist, inspire, direct, and motivate students in the master's thesis research and writing process. To advise and aid students in successfully completing their master's theses through selecting and narrowing the topic, research, outline creation, and writing a rough draft.

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES:

- Read and examine previous UTS master's theses and projects.
- Selecting and narrowing the topic.
- Reflect and discuss all aspects of the thesis process with the instructor and peers.
- Provide detailed explanations of the various components of the master's thesis.
- Compare and contrast both quantitative and qualitative research methods.
- Present a concrete strategy on how to conduct a literature review.
- Present a concrete strategy on how to create an outline and how to write each chapter of the master's thesis,
- Present concrete strategy on how to use and apply the American Psychological Association (APA) or Turabian (Chicago) style.

REQUIRED TEXT:

Kate L. Turabian. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, Seventh Edition: Chicago Style for Students and Researchers (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing).* Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 2007.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS:

William I. Strunk, Jr., and E.B. White. *Elements of Style*. New York, Macmillan Publishing Company.

Jay Stevenson. *The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Grammar and Punctuation*. New York: Alpha, 2005.

Jo Sprague and Douglas Stuart. *The Speaker's Handbook.* New York: Harcourt College Publishers, 2000.

Jacques Barzun and Henry F. Graff. *The Modern Researcher*. 5th Edition. San Diego: Hartcourt Brace Jovanivich.

Edward P.J. Corbett and Robert J. Connors. *Classical Rhetoric for the Modern Student*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998.

Dan Gookin. *Word 2010 for Dummies*. Indianapolis, Indiana: Wiley Publishing, Inc., 2010.

Sharon Sorenson. *How to Write Research Papers.* New York, Macmillian Publishing Company.

Yvonne Nguyen Bui. *How to Write a Master's Thesis*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, Inc., 2009.

Raymond L. Calabrese. *The Elements of an Effective Dissertation and Thesis: A Step-by-Step Guide to Getting it Right the First Time*. Lanham, Maryland: Rowman & Littlefield Education, 2006.

Diana Hacker. *Rules for Writers with 2009 MLA and 2010 APA Updates* [Spiral-bound]. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's; Sixth Edition, 2010.

Diana Hacker. *A Pocket Style Manual.* New York: Bedford/St. Martin's; Sixth Edition, 1999.

Mary Lynn Rampolla. *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*. New York: Bedford/St. Martin's; Sixth Edition edition, 2009.

Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition. Washington: American Psychological Association, 2009.

Concise Rules of APA Style (Concise Rules of the American Psychological Association (APA) Style) [Spiral-bound]. Washington: American Psychological Association, 2009.

Ann Raimes. *Keys For Writers, 4th Edition Plus Smarthinking*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Com., 2004.

CLASS SCHEDULE:

Meet at least three Saturdays in our Barrytown, New York campus during the Fall Semester.