

JMC 495.1 Senior Thesis Seminar I (credit value 3)**Fall 2013****Instructor: Elena Skochilo, M.S.****Meeting time:** Tuesday 9:25 – 10:40 am Room **321**, main buildingTuesday 10:50 – 12:05 am Room **321**, main building**Phone:** 0 553 91 44 07**E-mail:** skochilo@gmail.com (e-mail is usually the best way to reach me)**Office:** Room 206, main building**Office Hours:** 14:00 – 17:00, or by appointment, via phone and/or email**Course description**

This course will be results based. You will meet tough deadlines and finish a proposal of your senior thesis by the end of the semester.

Class time will be spent discussing presentations, textbook readings, listening to your assigned presentations, and talking about progress on your projects. There is no principal difference between lecture and seminar class time as all of our class meetings will be devoted to the study of the main aspects of the course.

Course requirements

During this course you must complete the assigned reports and one final project (thesis proposal). There will be a series of class discussions and exercises designed to teach basic research procedures. After the preliminaries, much of the work in the class will revolve around producing your senior thesis proposal/project.

Grading policy

Plagiarism, cheating and other forms of academic misconduct as defined in the Code of Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct of AUCA are prohibited. Students guilty of academic misconduct, either directly or indirectly through participation or assistance are immediately responsible to the instructor of the class. In addition to the other possible disciplinary sanctions which may be imposed, the instructor has the authority to assign and F or W for the work or examination; or to assign an F in the course. If the student believes he or she has been erroneously accused of academic misconduct, and if his or her final grade has been lowered as a result, the student may appeal the case through the appropriate procedures.

Active participation during class and a demonstrated grasp of major concepts are essential for obtaining a good grade in this course.

- Attendance and participation: 10 percent
- Assignments: 90 percent

All work is due according to the given deadlines. **Late work** will lose 10 percent per calendar day after it is due, and will not be accepted after two days.

A	96 – 100%
A -	91 – 95%
B +	86 – 90%
B	81 – 85%
B -	76 – 80%
C +	71 – 75%
C	66 – 70%
C -	61 – 65%
D +	56 – 60%
D	51 – 55%
D -	46 – 50%
F	0 – 45%

Class and attendance policy

You must respect people's diversity and to be aware of the various ways in which language can be discriminatory. Thus, everyone should avoid using biased language both in the class discussions and in written assignments.

Please, turn your cell phones and other electronic devices off before the class. Messaging, texting, web-surfing, or playing electronic or computer games in class are prohibited.

Attendance is crucial for successful completion of your senior thesis. You may have two unexcused absences without penalty. After that, your Attendance and Participation grade will go down 5 percent per missed class. All excused absences must involve documentation.

Schedule (subject to changes)
Lectures and Seminars

Week 1: September 3	Introduction
Week 2: September 10	Research preliminaries
Week 3: September 17	Literature Review
Week 4: September 24	Problem statement
Week 5: October 1	Research design/methods
Week 6: October 8	Research design/methods
Week 7: October 15	Independent Study (no classes)
Week 8: October 22	Research ethics
Week 9: October 29	Independent work
Week 10: November 5	Independent work
Week 11: November 12	Independent work
Week 12: November 19	Independent work
Week 13: November 26	Independent work
Week 14: December 3	Independent work
Week 15: December 10	Research Proposal Due (in-class presentation)