

INTRL-UA 0991
IR Senior Seminar
Spring 2012

Professor Bernd Beber
Wilf Family Department of Politics
19 West 4th Street, Room 414
Phone: 212-992-8621
bernd.beber@nyu.edu

TA: Kong Joo Shin
kjs353@nyu.edu

Overview

This course is the continuation of the fall semester Senior Seminar. Its purpose is to guide and assist you as you continue to research and write your senior honors thesis. Our focus in the spring term is going to be your ongoing empirical analysis, writing up results, compiling and polishing a finished product, and preparing a compelling presentation of your ideas and findings.

Requirements and schedule

We will occasionally meet as a class, but for the most part you will meet individually with the instructors to discuss your progress, results, and drafts. Take note of the following dates and deadlines:

Monday, January 23, 9:30am: First class meeting (12 Waverly Place, L114)

Wednesday, January 25, 9:30am – 11:30am: Open office hours (optional)

Monday, January 30, and Wednesday, February 1: Scheduled meetings (required)

Monday, February 6, and Wednesday, February 8: Scheduled meetings (optional)

Friday, February 10, 5pm: Draft of empirical section due (by email)

Monday, February 13, and Thursday, February 16: Scheduled meetings (required, note date change)

Thursday, February 23: Scheduled meetings (required, note date change)

Monday, February 27, and Wednesday, February 29, 9:30am – 10:45am: Class meets for presentations (12 Waverly Place, L114)

Friday, March 2, 5pm: Full draft of paper due (by email)

Monday, March 5, and Wednesday, March 7, 9:30am – 10:45am: Class meets for presentations (12 Waverly Place, L114)

March 12 – March 16: Spring break, no meetings

Monday, March 19, and Tuesday, March 20: Scheduled meetings (optional)

Friday, March 23, noon: Final deadline to submit completed thesis (NO LATE SUBMISSIONS)

Friday, March 30: Presentations to be held at *IR and Politics Undergraduate Research Conference*

From the start of the semester, you have three weeks until your paper's empirical section is due, then another three weeks until your first full draft, and then three more weeks until your completed thesis must be submitted. In other words: **Do not delay working on your thesis.**

You must schedule your meetings and presentations online using the following link:

<http://goo.gl/Gkhzl>

You will need to be signed into either your NYU-sponsored or your personal Google account to schedule meetings. You can sign into your NYU-sponsored Google account at home.nyu.edu. Click on Calendar or go directly to calendar.nyu.edu to see your appointments. Learn more at nyu.edu/google.

Please schedule the following as soon as you can:

- One 25-minute presentation slot between February 27 and March 7,
- One 30-minute meeting slot on January 30 or February 1,
- One 30-minute meeting slot on February 13 or February 16, and
- One 30-minute meeting slot on February 23.

You can also reserve a meeting slot on February 6 or 8, March 19 or 20. You are not required to schedule a meeting during those weeks, but you are very much encouraged to do so if you think it will help you as you work on your thesis.

Aside from meetings scheduled online, I am available during my regular office hours on Mondays 2-4pm, but note that these are not reserved exclusively for students in this class. You can also email me if you would like to meet at another time or schedule an additional meeting. For quick questions, feel free to stop by my office anytime.

You will also continue to meet with KJ. She will arrange meeting times with you directly.

KJ and I will advise and guide you to the best of our abilities. But remember that the senior honor thesis is yours. At the end of the day, **it is your project, and *only you* are responsible for completing it.**

You are also **strongly encouraged** to take advantage of the resources offered by NYU's Writing Center. Please see nyu.edu/cas/ewp/html/writing_center.html for more information and to schedule an appointment. At the very least, you should have a friend proof-read your paper. Remember that your thesis will be circulated among professors in the department. You want to avoid embarrassing spelling and grammatical errors.

Grading

Your course grade will largely depend on your senior honors thesis, but will also be affected by presentations and class participation. Grades will be computed as follows:

- Your honors thesis will count for 80% of your final course grade,
- Presentations in class and at the research conference will count for 15%, and
- Class participation (being prepared for and attending all required meetings, commenting on other students' presentations, and complying with class deadlines) will count for 5% of your final course grade.