



HNR 351: Honors Senior Project/Thesis Development

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Tuesday @ 1:00 PM and Wednesday @ 12:00 & 4:00 PM

Course Objectives and Goals

The goals of HNR 351 (Thesis Development) differ from those of HNR 325 (Thesis Orientation). Whereas the earlier class aimed to help you choose and refine a topic, discuss different thesis genres (creative, scholarly, pedagogical, scientific, hybrid) and—most important—create a successful thesis proposal, this class will ask you to:

1. Complete and revise a mind map and annotated outline.
2. Dedicate yourself to doing significant thesis research – especially the sources from your annotated bibliography
3. Learn about the rationale for, and purpose of, a literature review
4. Begin writing at least one important section of your thesis:
 - a. Most of you (scholarly/scientific theses) will write a literature review
 - b. Some of you (creative theses) might write the expository/reflective section and/or your opening pages
 - c. Others of you (pedagogical/hybrid/experiential projects) might complete other contextualization sections, per consultation with me.

Grade Calculation & Attendance Policy

If you *satisfactorily* complete #1, #2, and #4 above, you *should* receive an “A” for this course. HOWEVER, as in HNR 325, *effort* is as important as *product*. Lower effort will result in lower

grades. Please don't make me nag you, and please don't fall behind. A recurrent theme this term will be accepting responsibility for YOUR projects. As in HNR 325, your own work will be the primary text for this class, supplemented by student work from past years. **NOTE:** Any more than two unexcused absences will result in a half-letter final grade reduction.

Tentative Class Schedule

Unit One: Concept Mapping & Expanded Annotated Bibliographies

- Week 1 Class Cancelled.
- Week 2 Course summary & overview.
- Week 3: Mind-maps/concept maps.
- Week 4: Common thesis structures/organization and expanded annotations.

Unit 1 Homework: by the end of week 4 you should have:

- 1) Re-read your thesis proposal & committee feedback.
- 2) Touched base with your thesis advisor.
- 3) Completed and submitted a GOOD mind-map/concept map.
- 4) Gathered more sources – ideally 15-20, if appropriate to your topic.
- 5) Begun taking notes on these new sources.
- 6) Completed and shared your expanded bibliography (Google Doc).
- 7) Completed and submitted one new 250-word annotation (same Doc).

Unit Two: Literature Reviews & Other Expository/Contextualization Sections

- Week 5 Literature Reviews: Rationale and Tips
- Week 6 Sample literature reviews.
- Week 7 Expository/contextualization sections, especially for creative and experiential projects.

Unit 2 Homework: by the end of week 7 you should have:

- 1) Finished ALL note-taking for your new sources.
- 2) Added two new 250-word annotations to your shared Google Doc.
- 3) Read ALL student lit or expository reviews distributed for class.
- 4) Communicated with your advisor about ideal end-of-term work expectations.

Unit Three: Expanded/Annotated Outlines and Course Wrap Up

- Week 8 Expanded/Annotated Outlines: Rationale and Tips.
- Week 9 Finish Discussing Expanded Outlines and Contextualization Sections.
- Week 10 Class summary and wrap-up. Homework for Finals Week: complete your shared Google Doc with all end-of-term assignments.