

Department of Ethnic Studies

**ES 290B
Masters Thesis Completion**

Spring 2008

Instructor: David N. Pellow

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Office Hours: Monday 11:30am-1pm and Wednesday 10:30am-12noon

Class Meets: Wednesdays 12 noon - 2:50 pm

Readings will be on library reserves or handed out in class.

Essential tools: *The Chicago Manual of Style* (14th edition preferably), Strunk and White's *Elements of Style*, Thesaurus.

Purpose and Rationale:

Writing a Master's Thesis is the first of the major benchmarks in our graduate program. It requires you to undertake a significant research project and engage in intensive writing for the better part of a year. The focus of this course is on writing and completing the thesis. Each week you will be devoting a significant amount of time to your thesis work. When writing is due for class evaluation, please make copies for everyone (and the instructor) and place in their mailboxes by the due date. When you are reading your colleagues' work, make thoughtful and constructive suggestions for improvement and put them in writing. Providing feedback and useful critiques of others' work is an important part of academic life, so it will be emphasized as well. The major goal of the course is to have you build on and complete the fundamental building blocks of your thesis (including conceptualization and research question(s), introduction, literature review, research methods, evidence/data, and analysis). Throughout the course, the instructor will include a focus on professionalization and career issues as well.

Schedule

April 2	Introductions, clarifications, and setting goals
April 9	Discussions and feedback on Group A papers
April 16	Discussions and feedback on Group B papers
April 23	Discussions and feedback on Group A papers
April 30	Discussions and feedback on Group B papers

May 7	No class. Revise papers and meet with faculty advisors
May 14	Discussions and feedback on Group A papers
May 21	Discussions and feedback on Group B papers
May 28	Discussions and feedback on remaining papers and issues.
June 4	Final Class (if needed)