

COURSE SYLLABUS
ANTHROPOLOGY 897: *Directed Thesis Advising and Support*

Semester: Spring 2008

Section: 1 (W 17:10-19:00, SCI 273)

Instructor: Mark C. Griffin

Office: 395 Science

Phone: 338-7519

E-mail: mgriffin@sfsu.edu

Office Hours: MWF 3:00-4:00 or by appt.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This Spring Semester course is designed to be a series of regularly scheduled thesis workshop sessions for Anthropology MA students who prior to, during, or after enrollment in Anth 894 (Creative Work Project) or Anth 898 (Master's Thesis) need assistance in the timely completion of their work. The course is intended to provide regularly scheduled faculty instruction and advising in the Spring semester when most advanced students are conducting their thesis research and writing. It is also intended to provide a forum for additional collegial support, information sharing, and networking among fellow course participants.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

The first half of the semester, for each course meeting, each student will make a PowerPoint Presentation on an assigned aspect of their thesis (e.g., Materials, Methods, Statistics, etc.). These will be developed over the course of the semester, so that feedback from each presentation will be incorporated into later presentations. The last half of the semester, each student will bring three copies of the thesis chapter that they have been assigned to develop. All thesis front matter and literature cited must be included with each draft, using the required University Thesis Format. The instructor will read one copy; the two other copies will be given out to two other students in the course for their constructive commentary.

ENROLLMENT AND GRADING:

Those students who have finished all of their course work but have had trouble focusing on a thesis topic or have not made significant progress on thesis research may voluntarily enroll in Anth 987 *before* enrolling in Anth 894 (Creative Work Project) or Anth 898 (Thesis) or while enrolled in either course.

The grading for Anth 897 is CR/NC (credit/no credit). Anth 897 cannot be counted towards degree credit nor can it appear on your Graduate Approved Program.

ATTENDANCE:

The purpose of this course is to assist you and monitor your progress while completing your project. This will not work if you do not come to class. Therefore:

ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR THIS COURSE. YOU MUST COME TO CLASS IF YOU PLAN TO PASS THE COURSE.

TEXTBOOKS:

HAILMAN, JACK P. AND KAREN B. STRIER. 1997. *Planning, Proposing, and Presenting Science Effectively: A Guide for Graduate Students and Researchers in the Behavioral Sciences and Biology*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

TURABIAN, KATE L. 1996. *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations, 6th edition* (Chicago Guides to Writing, Editing, and Publishing). University of Chicago Press.

In addition to the weekly assignments, the following topics will briefly be discussed over the course of the semester.

SCHEDULE:

WEEK	TOPIC
1	Overview of university requirements for preparing the thesis; timeline for submitting theses, discussion of thesis preparation guidelines; process of thesis submission
2	Discussion of purpose of the thesis, difference between a thesis and a term paper; discussion of research, research techniques, formulation of the hypothesis, hypothesis testing; review of the literature; formulation of methodology; presentation of results
3	Introduction to Library Resources: new services, online databases, interlibrary loan
4	Time Management: constructing an annotated outline, constructing a timeline and sticking with it
5	The Literature Review: How to start, where to look, what to do, when to stop
6	Technical Issues I: word processing, statistical packages, spreadsheets
7	Technical Issues II: scientific writing, grammar, punctuation, citation
8	Technical Issues III: systematic data collection
9	Technical Issues IV: data analysis and presentation
10	Technical Issues V: tables, figures, illustrations
11	Improving Thesis Writing: sentence crafting
12	Improving Thesis Writing: paragraph crafting
13	From Thesis to Presentation: How to get your thesis in shape for a professional meetings presentation
14	From Thesis to Publication: How to get your thesis in shape for publication in a peer reviewed journal
