

PhD-900: Research Methods I
Fall Semester: September 8-12, 2025

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Budd Building, Seminar Room
60 Lorraine St.

Course Description:

This course will examine advanced level research methods for the PhD program and develop skills in advanced level academic research.

Course Objectives:

Students will

1. Understand the HIU PhD program and requirements,
2. Develop skills and techniques appropriate for doctoral-level academic study, including
Effective use of libraries and bibliographic resources,
Efficient reading and organizing of academic material,
Working with primary languages,
Examining methodological problems in academic research.
3. Develop the habit of scholarly conversation in a PhD cohort.

Course Format:

This course consists of 14 sessions over the course of the semester. The first nine will take place during the PhD orientation residency (September 8-12). The following will be scheduled during the remainder of the semester, TBD.

Course Requirements:

1. Attend and actively participate in class. Students should have read all the required reading, being ready to engage in class discussion.
2. In consultation with the instructor, select a source from which to write two book reviews that could potentially be submitted for publication.
3. Present on one book from the student's Literature Review bibliography (in consultation with your advisor) following the intensive week, TBD.

Required Texts:

Turabian, Kate L. *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*. 9th ed. Chicago: University of Chicago, 2018. [ISBN 978-0226430577]

Selections from:

Rocco, Tonnelle S., Tim Hatcher and Associates. *The Handbook of Scholarly Writing and Publishing*. New York: Jossey-Bass, 2011. Chaps 4, 10 and 11 on Canvas course site.

Two books from the student's Literature Review Seminar, potentially to be submitted to a journal as a book review, due **Oct. 31** and **Dec. 5**.

CLASS SCHEDULE

Fall Orientation Program

Session 1: Monday, 8 September, 9:00-12:00: Introduction to the PhD Program

In this session, students will be introduced to the cohort, have an overview of the PhD program, stages I and II, and be introduced to some of the HIU faculty.

Session 2: Monday, 8 September, 2:00-5:00: Introduction to the PhD Program II

In this session, we will continue to provide an overview of states III, IV, and V (briefly), and the course Canvas Site, and other resources.

Required Reading: Rocco, chap. 10, pp. 125-142. On Canvas site.

Session 3: Tuesday, 9 September, 9:00-12:00: How to read and research efficiently

In this session, students will be introduced to the skills of participating in larger scholastic “conversations.”

- Reading skills and evaluating works
- Annotated Bibliography
- Literature Review

Required Reading: Rocco, chap. 11, pp. 145-60

Session 4: Tuesday, 9 September, 2:00-5:00: Library Research Methods I

Overview of the resources of the HIU Library, WorldCat, Databases and ILL

Session 5: Wednesday, 10 September, 9:00-12:00: Book Reviews

In this session we will examine the role of Book Reviews for research and skills in writing them.

Required Reading: Rocco, chap. 4, pp. 41-61; for further information on book reviews see: [Purdue OWL](#)

Session 6: Wednesday, 14 September, 2:00-5:00 – Meet with Advisor to begin Literature Review

In addition:

- In consultation with their advisors, students will select two books from their Literature Review Seminar and write two book reviews to be **submitted on Oct. 31 and Dec. 5, respectively.**
- In consultation with the instructor, students will select a monograph from their Literature Review and be prepared to report on it, the focus, method, and style. **Presentation date TBD** (see below).

Session 7: Thursday, 11 September, 9:00-12:00: Working in original languages

In this session, students will be presented with examples and problems of working with:

- Primary sources and original languages
- Scholarly standards (translation, transliteration, and citation)

Session 8: Thursday, 11 September, 2:00-5:00: Library Research Methods II

In this session students will return to the library and explore specific research questions and resources.

Session 9: Friday, 12 September, 9:00-12:00: AI, and best practices in research in Academia

This session will examine the role of AI in academia, its opportunities and ethical challenges.

Required Reading: Engler, 1.3 and 1.1

STUDENT PRESENTATIONS
Fall Semester Online Sessions

These final class sessions will take place following the orientation week, throughout the rest of the semester. Students will be responsible for picking one monograph study in their area of interest to present and critically evaluate. The monographs should be chosen in consultation with their advisor and should be from important works germane to the student's area of research.

Presentation #1: TBD

Presentation #2: TBD

Presentation #3: TBD

Presentation #4: TBD

Presentation #5: TBD

Reminder: In consultation with the instructor, submit book reviews for publication. Due, **October 31**, and **December 5**.