Research & Writing Seminars: Develop Your Scholarly Voice

Each session in this suite of four interactive seminars integrates the learning of academic research and writing skills and is taught by a librarian in collaboration with a writing instructor. The goal of each seminar is to help you develop your own voice as an emerging scholar by enabling you to identify, situate and substantiate your arguments in the context of the scholarly discussion taking place in your discipline.

The seminars are designed for humanities and social sciences undergraduate students. Graduate students might wish to consider the research-related skills offerings in the Graduate Professional Skills Program.

Take any three (3) of the four (4) seminars to earn credit on your Co-Curricular Record.

All seminars take place in the EClassroom on the third floor of the library and organized in collaboration with the Victoria College Writing Centre.

Schedule

Critical Reading

Learn how to develop critical reading skills and how to incorporate them into the process of research and critical writing. This session concentrates on the skills of analysis and synthesis as they pertain to library research and academic writing.

- Monday, January 20, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm | registration

Instructors: Agatha Barc, Susan K. Riggs

Writing to Cite

Learn how to develop effective strategies for academic research and how to correctly incorporate primary and secondary sources into your essays. You will learn about the various styles of documentation, incorporating close reading to develop your own research interests and arguments, and avoiding inadvertent plagiarism.

- Monday, January 27, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm | registration

Instructors: Diane Michaud, Susan K. Riggs

Annotated Bibliographies

The session addresses the “big picture” of the place of annotated bibliographies in the scholarly conversation, as well as “nuts-and-bolts” strategies for researching and evaluating books and articles to identify the best sources on a topic. You will learn how to recognize different types of annotated bibliography assignments and define the scope of your research to make good choices about including and excluding sources, and more.
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- Monday, February 3, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm | registration
  Instructors: Colin Deinhardt, Susan K. Riggs.

- Thursday February 6, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm | registration
  Instructors: Colin Deinhardt, Susan K. Riggs.

Literature Reviews
Learn how to conduct comprehensive research and synthesize the “state of the art” knowledge on a particular topic. Through short lectures, interactive class discussion and hands-on exercises, you will learn about the different kinds of literature reviews you may be asked to write at university, the steps to writing a literature review, including how to organize your content, and more.

- Monday, February 10, 2:00 pm–4:00 pm | registration
  Instructors: Colin Deinhardt, Susan K. Riggs.

- Thursday, February 13, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm | registration
  Instructors: Diane Michaud, Susan K. Riggs.

Seminar Materials
Handouts and other resources will be posted on an external seminar web site. The password to access the materials will be provided by the instructors in-class on the day of each seminar.

Contact
Please contact Colin Deinhardt (Reader Services and Instruction Librarian) for more information: colin [dot] deinhardt [at] vicu [dot] utoronto [dot] ca.

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