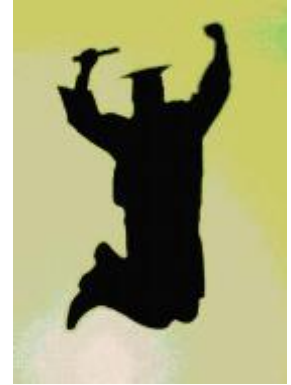


**AMST 4973**  
**Senior Seminar in American Studies**  
Spring 2018 (Thurs, 4:30-7:10 pm)  
**Dr. David Gray**



The Senior Seminar is the capstone course for the Bachelor of Arts degree in American Studies. In this course you will hone your research and writing skills and write your Senior Thesis. Early classes will involve a critical examination of the scholar's craft. You will read several introductions to academic books in order to ascertain how scholars: develop a methodology; conduct research; use sources; construct arguments; and situate the work in relation to existing scholarship. You will be expected to apply these skills in your Thesis. The course will take the form of a writing workshop. You will submit sections of your Thesis to the instructor and your peers on a weekly basis and receive feedback that you must implement during the revision process. Together with your peers, you will work through the challenges of scholarly research and writing to produce a Thesis that you are proud of. **Students are strongly encouraged to choose a topic for their Thesis prior to the course.** Feel free to contact Dr. Gray during the previous semester to discuss your ideas.

**Required text:** Wayne Booth, Gregory Colomb, and Joseph Williams, *The Craft of Research*, 3rd edition.

**Optional texts:** Sylvan Barnet, Pat Bellanca, and Marcia Stubbs, *A Short Guide to College Writing*; Sylvan Barnet, *A Short Guide to Writing About Literature*; Richard Marius, *A Short Guide to Writing About History*; Mary Lynn Rampolla, *A Pocket Guide to Writing in History*; Lee Cuba, *A Short Guide to Writing About Social Science*; Tim Corrigan, *A Short Guide to Writing About Film*.

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