

Honors Thesis Course – Government 679HB

Bethany Albertson, Office BAT 4.124, balberts@austin.utexas.edu,

Office hours: Wednesday 9:00-12:00 & by appointment. Please sign up here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1UHxlo2TIKVUdLpIPKjuX93vs_WqeWoyPPEV5OVI0Ebg/edit#gid=0

The purpose of this class is to support students as they write their honors theses - we will check in weekly with small goals, hold peer reviews, and scheduled writing sessions.

Writing a significant paper is difficult - the benefit of our small class is the flexibility. As always, you are encouraged to bring your concerns to me and I will help you find a solution, or connect you with people who can.

Academic Honesty and Integrity

Issues of academic dishonesty will be taken very seriously and any finding of cheating or other unethical behavior will be pursued to the full extent possible under university policy. Students should consult the University of Texas Honor Code.

Grades

Your course grade is based on the following components:

Advisor's recommend grade

My assessment of effort and overall project (which would only be used to raise, not lower a recommended grade).

Accessibility Statement:

The university is committed to creating an accessible and inclusive learning environment consistent with university policy and federal and state law. Please let me know if you experience any barriers to learning so I can work with you to ensure you have equal opportunity to participate fully in this course. If you are a student with a disability, or think you may have a disability, and need accommodations please contact Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD). Please refer to SSD's website for contact and more information: <http://diversity.utexas.edu/disability/>. If you are already registered with SSD, please deliver your Accommodation Letter to me as early as possible in the semester so we can discuss your approved accommodations and needs in this course.

Religious Holidays

By UT Austin policy, you must notify us of your pending absence at least fourteen days prior to the date of observance of a religious holy day. If you must miss a class, an examination, a work assignment, or a project in order to observe a religious holy day, you will be given an opportunity to complete the missed work within a reasonable time after the absence.

Emergencies

Please also see the following recommendations regarding emergency evacuation from the Office of Campus Safety and Security, 512-471- 5767, <http://www.utexas.edu/safety/>. 1. Occupants of buildings on The University of Texas at Austin campus are required to evacuate buildings when a fire alarm is activated. Alarm activation or announcement requires exiting and assembling outside. 2. Familiarize yourself with all exit doors of each classroom and building you may occupy. Remember that the nearest

exit door may not be the one you used when entering the building. 3. Students requiring assistance in evacuation shall inform their instructor in writing during the first week of class. 4. In the event of an evacuation, follow the instruction of faculty or class instructors. 5. Do not reenter a building unless given instructions by the following: Austin Fire Department, The University of Texas at Austin Police Department, or Fire Prevention Services office. 6. Behavior Concerns Advice Line (BCAL): 512-232--5050. 7. Link to information regarding emergency evacuation routes and emergency procedures can be found at: www.utexas.edu/emergency.

Class Schedule

January 19: Touching Base - where are we? What's next?

January 26: Presenting results. Effective charts and graphs.

February 3: 5 pages due. Peer review.

February 9: Transitions & road maps, they're useful.

February 16: 5 pages due. Peer review.

February 23: Writing implications and results.

March 2: Five pages due. Peer review

March 9: To be determined.

March 16: Five pages due. Peer review

March 23: To be determined.

March 30: Five pages due. Peer review

April 6: How to present your work. Power point, public speaking and more.

April 13: Rough drafts, editing, and prioritizing your last month

April 20: Presentations

April 27: Final Drafts - let's get them done!

May 4: Final Class.