

COMP LIT SENIOR TUTORIAL WORKSHOPS

FALL 2025 & SPRING 2026

DANA-PALMER SEMINAR ROOM

Dr. Jacob Meister

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FALL 2025

Writing Your Thesis Proposal (Wednesday, September 10, 6-8PM)

How to write a senior thesis proposal? To explore the process and to prepare for your upcoming deadline, we will study the genre by reading and dissecting proposals from previous years. Attention will also be paid to creating an annotated bibliography. In the second half of the workshop, you will draft an outline and first paragraph of the proposal, a revision of which will be shared for peer review on our discussion board.

Navigating Library Resources & Developing Research Skills (Wednesday, October 1, 6-8PM)

How to begin the daunting task of researching a thesis? How to find what you're looking for? How to work with primary and secondary sources? Rita Soenksen, our new Research and Pedagogy Librarian and Departmental Liaison, will join us for this workshop, designed to guide you through the craft of research as you begin to write the first chapter.

Chapter One Workshop (Wednesday, October 15, 6-8PM)

To prepare for your upcoming deadline, you will submit a draft abstract, outline, and one-page introduction of your first chapter to our discussion board one week prior to our meeting. Having read through everyone's materials, you will choose the work of one peer and respond with questions and suggestions. In the workshop, you will present a brief synthesis of your argument in a short informal talk, followed by Q&A.

How to Write Over Winter Break (Wednesday, November 19, 6-8PM)

How to avoid feeling lost and indulging in procrastination after the semester ends? As a check-in just before Thanksgiving, this workshop will offer strategies on how to get writing done during winter break, including forming Zoom writing groups in December and January, when many students will be off campus.

SPRING 2026:

Introductions, Conclusions, and Abstracts (Wednesday, February 18, 6-8PM)

By now you've written your last chapter. The full draft of your thesis is due soon to your tutor. What's left? The introduction, conclusion, and thesis abstract. This workshop will look at successful examples of each as we think about how to open and close a thesis. You will then draft the first page of your introduction and a thesis abstract, a revision of both will be shared for peer review on our discussion board.

Prepping for the Oral Exam (Wednesday, March 25, 6-8PM)

In preparation for oral exams at the end of the semester, which require a pivot from written to oral expression, this workshop will offer you the chance to practice speaking about your completed work. To simulate the exam experience, you will give a précis aimed at synthesizing your thesis for listeners both familiar and unfamiliar with the work, followed by Q&A.