

**THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL STUDIES  
REGISTRATION NOTES  
SENIORS**

Last spring you registered for the fall semester. During Drop/Add (Monday, August 29 to Friday, September 16), please review your selections, discuss your schedule with your advisor, and make whatever changes are needed. Please keep in mind the requirements and other considerations given below.

Your CSS advisor for this year will normally be the same as last year, but due to sabbaticals and leaves, she or he may have been replaced over the summer. Please check your WesPortal in late August to see if your advisor has changed and, if so, to whom you have been reassigned. You will be seeking advice and authorization from her or him during November preregistration for spring classes.

**CHOOSING COURSES FOR THE SENIOR YEAR**

All CSS seniors take CSS 391, Senior Colloquium, in the fall semester. In addition, to complete the CSS capstone requirement you will be taking either two Senior Thesis Tutorials (worth one credit in each semester) resulting in the completion of a senior thesis or one Individual Tutorial (worth one credit) in the fall or the spring semester to complete a senior essay.

All seniors should submit an updated Senior Thesis Proposal or Senior Essay Proposal as an email attachment to Martha by Wednesday, September 7. Guidelines for that proposal are described in the “Senior Year Program,” a document that is included in this summer mailing.

**General Education Expectations:** You must finish both your Stage I and Stage II General Education Expectations by the end of your senior year in order to graduate with a CSS major. If you are not yet Stage II compliant, you should construct a plan with your advisor (or a revised/updated plan if you already submitted a previous plan) to complete Stage II by the end of the spring semester. Please inform the CSS Co-Chairs of your final plan to complete your Gen Ed requirements by sending an e-mail with your plan to Martha by Wednesday, September 7.

**GENERAL NOTES**

**Grades:** As in junior year, CSS courses (including the Senior Thesis Tutorial and any Individual Research Tutorials) are graded on the usual scale of A to F. You may take your other courses graded or not, if the instructor allows such a choice, and the results will be recorded accordingly on your transcript by the Registrar's Office. For the Senior Thesis Tutorials, your senior thesis advisor will usually give you a grade of X for the fall semester, which serves as a placeholder until the senior thesis is completed. Then she or he will revise the X grade to a letter grade in the spring. This is advantageous because it gives the thesis student sufficient time to complete the work before being graded. Please note that the Honors designation on the senior thesis is distinct from the grades you receive for the Senior Thesis Tutorials. Honors is determined solely by the thesis readers; tutorial grades are given by the senior thesis advisor.

**Transcripts:** You should know that the Registrar's Office prepares your transcript using a special format for CSS students. The CSS Transcript Letter, found on the CSS website, under “For Majors”, accompanies CSS transcripts when they are sent out. You should check your transcript before including it in applications for jobs or graduate school; information sometimes gets lost in the shuffle, e.g., transfer credits (especially from overseas programs), completion of Incompletes, clearing of X grades, and Audits.