THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL STUDIES
REGISTRATION NOTES
SENIORS

Last Spring you registered for the Fall Semester. When you return to campus, 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 to see if
your Advisor has changed and, if so, to whom you have been reassigned. Seek advice and
authorization from her or him during November preregistration.

CHOOSING COURSES FOR THE SENIOR YEAR

All CSS Seniors take CSS 391, Senior Colloquium, in the Fall Semester, and were preregistered
for the Colloquium in the Spring. In addition, during their Senior year they take either two Senior
Thesis Tutorials (worth one credit each) resulting in the completion of a Senior Thesis, or they
make take an individual Tutorial (worth one credit) in order to complete a Senior Essay. Very
occasionally, and with the approval of your Advisor and the CSS Co-Chairs, Senior Essays may
also be completed within an advanced seminar in one of the social sciences.

All Seniors should submit an updated Senior Thesis Proposal or Senior Essay Proposal as an
attachment to the CSS Administrative Assistant by Wednesday, September 5th. Guidelines for that
proposal are described in the “Senior Year Program,” a document that is part of 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 devise with your Advisor a plan (or a revised/updated plan
if you already submitted a previous plan) to complete Stage II by the end of spring semester. Please
let the CSS Co-Chairs know your plan to complete your Gen Ed requirements. Do this by e-mail to
Martha by Wednesday, September 5th.

GENERAL NOTES

Grades: As in Junior year, CSS courses (including the Senior Thesis and the Individual Tutorials)
are graded on the usual scale of A to F. You may take your other courses graded or not, if the
professor gives you 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 to your
advantage, as it gives the Thesis students more time before they are graded. Note that the Honors
designation on your Senior Thesis has no automatic relationship with the grades you receive for
your Senior Thesis Tutorials; Honors is determined by the Thesis Readers, while your Tutorial
grades are determined solely by your Senior Thesis Advisor.

**Transcripts**: You should know that the Registrar's Office prepares your transcript using a special format for CSS students. In addition, you should check your transcript before including it in applications for jobs or graduate school; information sometimes gets lost in the shuffle, especially transfer credits (especially from overseas programs), completion of Incompletes, clearing of X grades, and Audits.