

THESIS CHECKLIST AND SUMMER PLANS, 2019

I. THIS SEMESTER (Spring 2019)

- **Attend the Watson Institute Thesis Conference on May 2** (program and schedule are forthcoming). Public presentation of research findings is mandatory for students in the honors program. Check it out. This will be you next year!
- **Meet with a subject librarian.** At this early stage in your research, librarians can help you narrow your research question, find review articles to give you a sense of the existing scholarship on your topic, direct you to library holdings and databases, and offer tips to enhance your online search skills. The IR librarian is Carina Cournoyer—she works closely with IR thesis-writers and knows what you need!
- **Submit a summer research plan** to Dr. Elliott. Your research plan should be made in conjunction with your primary thesis advisor. Over the summer students typically read key books and articles on their topic and case study, review the quantitative and qualitative sources available to them, and perhaps conduct research abroad. Be as specific as possible.
- **Apply for summer research funds.** Applications for the **IR Research and Travel Grant** are due: **May 6, 2019.**

II. OVER THE SUMMER

- Read [Undergraduate Work Involving Human Subjects](#) on the Research at Brown website (under IRB Submission and Review of Research).
- Complete [Brown's online education course](#) for protection of human subjects research, offered by the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI). Choose Initial Education Courses, Group 1: Social-Behavioral-Educational Researchers and follow the Instructions for New Users. **Submit your completed training certificate** to the thesis seminar instructor prior to the fall semester.
- Read and digest at least one of the thesis writing resources below. This will introduce you to the key components of a thesis and help you understand the relationship between the thesis and the prospectus.
 - [Charles Lipson, How to Write a Thesis](#)
 - [A Guide to Writing a Senior Thesis in Government or A Guide to Writing a Senior Thesis in Social Studies](#)
 - [On the Art of Writing Proposals](#)

III. FALL SEMESTER 2019

- Return to Brown senior year ready to go! The IR Thesis Seminar begins: **Wednesday, September 4, 2019, 6:30 PM, Room 116, Watson.**

