

**UEP 410**  
**Advanced Seminar in**  
**Urban and Environmental Policy**  
Fall 2018

Mondays  
3p-5:55p  
UEP Conference Room

Professor Bhavna Shamasunder

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*Office Hours:* T, Th 1-2:30p or by appointment

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- completing your literature review and preliminary writing of any background research (e.g. for case studies)
- getting started on your primary research

Class topics, discussions, and assignments will include examination of social science research methodology and applications, particularly in the fields of urban and environmental policy, urban planning and social change. You are expected to have already taken (or be concurrently enrolled in) a research methods course. We will *not* be doing an overview of methods in this course with the expectation that you have this background already. Rather, we will focus on deepening your understanding of research methods applications as you discern which research methods are appropriate to pursue for your particular topic.

NOTE: If you plan on doing any video work, you must have completed or be currently enrolled in the documentary film or other relevant courses in the Media Arts and Culture department.

Class times are scheduled and structured to support your individual research projects. At the same time, the goal of the course is to create a learning community where students work together as peer reviewers and research colleagues.

drafts rather than a first draft. We expect writing turned in to us to have gone through a few rounds of revision on which we will base both your progress and your grade.

- ❑ Final paper (60%) Due December 7 by 5:00 p.m.

The final paper will be the first portion of your senior comps. We expect that it will be 15-20 pages. It will include your research question and sub-questions, a structured literature review, a background section if you have one; your methodology, and any instruments or data sets you will be using for your data analysis and collection; and your work plan and timeline for the Spring semester.

The quality of your paper (as well as ultimately your successful comps project) depends on meeting several hard deadlines during the fall semester outlined below.

<b>Research objectives/Assignments Overview</b>	<b>Completion by:</b>
Preliminary Research Proposals due	Tuesday, September 4



Sept 10

Intro

Topic discussion

Beginning your Literature

Review and

Sept 17	Library Resources <i>Guest: Andrew LaFave, Academic Commons</i>	Download and install Zotero free at <a href="http://zotero.com">zotero.com</a> . Bring your laptop with you); if you do not have a laptop, check one out of the library. You should already have started a scan of the literature on your topic. Please bring a set of articles that you can use to ensure that you are using Zotero properly with the Word program. Note: Zotero integration does not work with google docs.
Sept 24	Literature Review discussion	Please read and prepare to discuss your literature reviews. You must read all of them in advance of class.
Oct. 1	Methods	We will provide an example of a human subjects form for you to follow. For IRB, you will need the filled form as well as any supplementary instruments (surveys, etc..)
Oct 8		

Oct 29

NO CLASS  
Individual/group meetings with  
Professors

Final Human Subjects  
applications signed and  
submitted to HSRRC.

### ***Classroom Community***

The comps class is designed to facilitate a co-learning community of students as researchers. Students are responsible for engaging in respectful, open, and thoughtful discussion with each other and the professors; faculty are responsible for ensuring that discussions in the classroom are inclusive and productive.

### ***Academic Integrity***

Occidental College assumes that students and faculty accept and respect the principle of academic honesty. Academic misconduct, including cheating and plagiarism, is not tolerated. The policies for cheating, plagiarism, and academic misconduct are outlined in the Student Handbook available online