Professional Development Seminar  
Fall 2017

TIME: Every Other Thursday, Periods 7-8 (1:55-3:50)
PLACE: Anderson 117
INSTRUCTOR: David G. Hackett  
Office: 122 Anderson Hall  
Office Hours: Tuesday 10:30-11:30; Thursday 10:30-12:30 and by appointment  
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FORMAT: Seminar

DESCRIPTION
The Department of Religion views our graduate students as colleagues-in-training. Through the Professional Development Seminar we offer mentorship, practically oriented workshops, and discussions aimed at giving our students the perspective, experience, and confidence to excel as well-rounded professionals in academia and elsewhere. We expect that every entering graduate student will participate in this Seminar in their fall semester and that all graduate students will participate in the Seminar as their graduate program continues. While there will be one instructor for each semester of the Seminar, individual faculty members and graduate students will be called upon to offer their insights and confessions on their own graduate school experience. As an ongoing forum for investigating and receiving guidance about all aspects of professional development, the Professional Development Seminar is intended to provide a series of thought-provoking conversations that nurture the growth and development of our graduate students as teachers, scholars, and engaged professionals.

We will begin this fall by emphasizing the following key topics. As our conversations continue, subsequent seminars will engage these and emerging areas in need of investigation.

SCHEDULE

August 31st  How to Survive and Thrive in the UF Graduate Program (Dr. Edelmann)  
- Choosing classes  
- Certificates  
- Time management  
- Participating in events across the university (e.g. going to guest lectures, networking with faculty outside the dept but in related fields, attending faculty and graduate social events, creating relationships with visiting scholars etc)  
- Funding

September 14th  Teaching (Dr. Hackett)  
- What is teaching? How do you teach?  
- Creating a syllabus  
- Giving a lecture  
- Leading a discussion  
- Dealing with disruptive students  
- Pedagogy
September 28th  Planning Ahead (Dr. Ostebo)  
- Preparing for qualifying exams  
- Choosing committee members  
- Writing the prospectus  

October 12th  How’s, When’s and Why’s of Attending Conferences (Dr. Narayanan)  
- Writing abstracts  
- Funding  
- The AAR process  
- Networking  

October 26th  To Publish: Whether, When, Where, and How (Dr. Taylor)  
- Academic writing  
- Finding the “right” journals  
- Turning conference papers into articles  
- Rejection, resubmission and other eventualities  

November 9th  Dissertation Research and Writing (Dr. Peterson)  
- Doing fieldwork  
- Organizing material  
- Creating a schedule  

November 16th  What Happens After Graduation? (Dr. Gordon)  
- The Religious Studies Job Market: the View from UF  
- Where to look for academic jobs  
- Non-Academic Careers  
- CV, cover letter, interviewing, job talk  

November 30th  AAR Debrief (TBD)  

Resource:  http://rsn.aarweb.org/spotlight-on/teaching