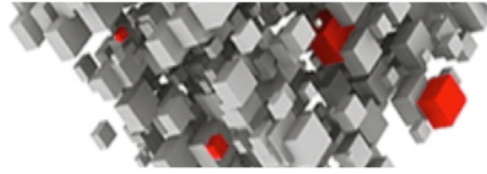


GRADUATE PROGRAM IN

Interdisciplinary Studies



INST 5000 6.0 Interdisciplinary Seminar

Criteria for Evaluation

The IS seminar, 5000 6.0. The seminar is "a discussion conducted by the Candidate's Supervisory Committee, focusing on the Candidate's research topic and designed to integrate the knowledge gained in courses in which the student is enrolled".

The grade for this seminar can be determined in a number of ways, depending on the collaborative wishes of all three supervisors. The grade is meant to evaluate the progress the student has made in meeting the challenge of the thesis topic, and can be based on the interim and end of year reports which you wrote and submitted to the programme at the appropriate times.

The seminar is a required course, in addition to two courses, a colloquium presentation and a thesis. The grade measures the "whole" student in a programme where academic work is organized around a student's special interests, and not around an offered course.

- evaluate intellectual progress based on the way the student incorporates course work into the thesis research and the colloquium;
- Preparedness for supervisory meetings
- Student Progress
- Student Follow Through
- Quality of the discussion the student conducts with the committee: does she bring salient questions?; how do her readings inform her point of view?; does she make a coherent, interdisciplinary and persuasive argument for the topic? etc.
- Preparation and enactment of the IS colloquium
- Preparation and enactment of Oral Exam

There remains a certain flexibility in how this grade is determined, and we see this as an advantage to the committee and to the student's project. The individual supervisors usually have to negotiate the criteria by which the evaluation is made, especially where there is debate about the grade. It is critical to remember that as the IS supervisory structure is collaborative and non-hierarchical, so too is the determination of the IS 5000 supervisory seminar criteria and eventual grade.

A formal grade submission form can be found on the IS webpage. We ask that this grade be submitted no later than one week following the student's oral examination.