

PhD Seminar II

Spring 2024

Instructor: Patricia Pei-Yi Kuo
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TA: TBD

Schedule: Wednesdays, 13:20-16:20pm
Location: CTM R406

Description

This class aims to train PhD students to equip necessary survival skills during their PhD study. On the one hand, it addresses timely topics such as how to identify research topics/interests, professional speaking/presentation, and understanding top research outlets. On the other hand, it trains students several survival practical skills such as making elevator pitch and critical thinking.

Required Readings

- Venkatesh, V. (2011). Road to success: A guide for doctoral students and junior faculty members in the behavioral and social sciences.
- Papers provided by instructors via Google Drive.

Grading

- Attendance and In-class Participation
- Student-Led Reading Presentation & Discussion (once per person)
- Writing Assignments
- Presentation Assignments
- Final Presentation

Policy Regarding Use of AI

Students may use ChatGPT to assist their learning and assignments for this class. However, each student is required to submit two written statements to indicate how ChatGPT is used: (1) to prepare their assignments, and (2) to assist any learning activities throughout this course. First statement needs to be submitted together with each individual/group assignment while the second statement is due at the end of the semester. If you does not use ChatGPT, simply put “none” or “not available” in this statement.

Tentative Schedule

Week	Topic
1	Course and Research Introduction
2	<i>NO CLASS (228 Memorial Holiday)</i>
3	Managing PhD Program (Years 1 & 2) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Self-Introductions
4	Building & Sustaining a Research Program <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing from ISS senior PhD Students
5	Success in a Doctoral Program – Four Essays
6	Writing a Paper <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sharing from ISS senior PhD Students
7	Practice I (<i>elevator pitch</i>)
8	Guest lecture (<i>career center</i>)
9	Practice II (<i>elevator pitch</i>)
10	Keywords & phrases I work by; Achieving balance in your life
11	Final Presentation
12	ISS PhD End-of-Year Evaluation

Course Structure

- Tool warm-up
- Assignment sharing
- Lecture & Discussion (*survival skill*)
- Reading Presentation & Discussion (*paper discussion*)