

WRITING CENTER TIP SHEET

SENIOR SEMINAR PROPOSALS

Getting Started

To help focus your seminar proposal, it needs to address the following information:

What type of medium do you work in? Why?

Are you working on an extended project, or a series of work? What is it?

Why does this subject matter appeal to you?

What do you hope to express or learn by working on this project?

Why are you ready to work independently in seminar?

Format

Statements should be brief—no more than a page—and allow the reader to understand why you made certain choices about your art when they review your work. A good formula to help you get started is the following three-paragraph version:

- I. Opening Paragraph--Introduces you
 - Why is being an artist important to you?
 - An honest assessment of your weaknesses and how you plan to overcome them.
 - What are you working on? Describe medium, size, significant details.
 - Why is it important to you?

- II. Second Paragraph—Introduces your work
 - What you learned from the independent series
 - How will you carry this knowledge into seminar?
 - From where else do you draw inspiration?

- III. Third Paragraph—Goals
 - How will seminar help you develop as an artist/how do you hope it will help you develop?
 - Why is it important to you to work on this project in such a concentrated manner as a seminar class?

By answering these questions, you will be organizing your proposal in a clear and thoughtful manner. This is only a guide—each type of statement you write will have different goals, so keep that in mind.

And remember: Visit the Writing Center or the Career Services Center at any time for more help.