**BBMNAN88100 – Preparation of MA Thesis: Research Methods**

Tuesday, 12.30-14.00

Thursday, 10.15-11.45

Instructor: Dr. habil. Michael McAteer

Online via MS Teams

**Course Description:** Writing an MA Thesis is the biggest task that students undertake in MA English Studies. This course is designed to guide students in their efforts. You will look at the nature of scholarship and what is regarded as good practice in academic writing and research. You will study the nature of primary sources and secondary sources. You will explore the range of library services that are available to you. You will develop a model of an MA Thesis research plan and decide upon the subject of your MA Thesis.

**Course Assessment:** 25% of your grade will be based on attendance and participation in classes. You must attend both your Tuesday and Thursday seminars online each week. ***If you miss either a Tuesday or a Thursday class, this will count as having missed the full week.*** You cannot complete this seminar if you miss more than three weeks of classes.

75% of your grade is based on the six written exercises that you are required to complete. ***You cannot complete this seminar if you do not upload all your exercises on time.***

**MA Thesis Supervision:** Each student on this seminar must secure the agreement of a full-time staff member of the Institute of English and American Studies to act as supervisor of her or his thesis. ***This agreement must be secured before the end of this seminar in May 2021.***

**Timetable**

Week 1, Tues, Feb. 9/Thurs, Feb 11: Introduction

Week 2, Tues, Feb 16/Thurs, Feb 17: MA Thesis Topic: What and Why

Week 3, Tues, Feb 23/Thurs, Feb 25: Example of Scholarship

Week 4, Tues, Mar 2/Thurs, Mar 4: Approaches to Primary Sources

Week 5, Tues, Mar 9/Thurs, Mar 11: Pázmány University Library

**Exercise 1: Primary Sources (Upload Tuesday Mar 9)**

Week 6, Tues, Mar 16/Thurs, Mar 18: Hungarian Academy Library

**Exercise 2: Pázmány University Library (Upload Tues Mar 16)**

**TERM BREAK: Monday MARCH 29 TO Friday APRIL 09**

Week 8, Tues, April 13/Thurs, April 15 MA Thesis Plan

**Exercise 3: Pázmány University Library (Upload Tues, April 13)**

Week 9, Tues, April 20/Thurs, April 22: Using criticism

**Exercise 4: MA Thesis Plan** **(Upload Tues, April 20)**

Week 10, Tues, April 27/Thurs, April 29: Referencing

**Exercise 5: MA Thesis Plan** **(Upload Tues, April 27)**

Week 11, Tues, May 4/Thurs, May 6: Bibliography

**Exercise 6: Referencing (Upload Tues, May 4)**

Week 12, Tues, May 11/Thurs, May 13: Review and Assessment of Thesis Questions