

## Guidelines for developing a reading course proposal in QLS

Students in QLS come from a variety of backgrounds and work on a wide range of research questions. Therefore, some may wish to develop a reading course, when there is no existing course at McGill or in Montreal offering content of importance to the student.

To request a reading course, students should develop a proposal together with the professor(s) who will teach or lead the course. This proposal will be submitted to the QLS curriculum committee for evaluation. If approved, the student will be allowed to register for QLSC 611.

When developing the proposal, the following should be considered :

- The overall workload of the course should be roughly equivalent to a 3-credit graduate level course.
- There should be regular (i.e. weekly) meetings with the professor (or professors) leading the course to discuss student progress and the course material. This professor should not be the thesis supervisor, except in exceptional circumstances.
- The course should be considered a breadth of knowledge element in the Ph.D. That is, the material to be learned cannot be the same as the student's anticipated thesis research. **This implies that the student's supervisor should not normally be the instructor.**

The proposal should include the following information:

- Name of student
- Name of professor(s) who will be teaching/leading the course
- Plan for regular meetings/discussion times
- A concrete plan for grading of the course. What work with the student do? What will be handed in and marked? What percentage of the overall grade will be assigned to each element? Etc.
- Learning objectives
- How the learning objectives will be achieved. This might include a series of readings, but might also be more broadly defined.