

Policy Regarding Late Senior Theses

Social Studies does not like to impose penalties, and we hope that the policy spelled out here will not have to be applied to any senior. Nevertheless, for the record, this sheet describes the Social Studies policy on late senior theses. This policy is in line with the penalty policies of social science concentrations.

The deadline for your thesis is 2:00 p.m. on Thesis Day.

Essays submitted after that time will be penalized severely. Theses are graded on a Latin scale (summa, magna, cum, no honors). A penalty of one third of a grade (e.g., *magna* to *magna minus*) will be imposed for the first three hours that a thesis is late. An additional penalty of one third of a grade will be taken for every 24 hours that a thesis is late after that. The 24-hour period resets each day at 2 p.m. Penalties accumulate such that a thesis submitted a week or more late may fail to receive honors.

In addition to submitting two hard copies of your thesis, you must also upload a PDF of your thesis to the Social Studies 99b course website.

The deadline for uploading your thesis is 2:00 p.m. on the day after Thesis Day.

Theses uploaded after the 2 p.m. deadline will be penalized one point for each 24 hours they are late.

Penalties will be waived exclusively in cases of documented medical illness or grave family emergency; students should consult with Anya Bassett, the Director of Studies, in that event. Missed alarm clocks, crashed computers, slow printers, and paper jams are not considered valid causes for extensions. You should plan to have the first draft of your thesis finished by mid-February to allow three weeks for revisions and a final week for proofreading and printing.