

FACULTY COLLOQUIUM
Wednesday
September 21, 2016
LIB 331 (Boettcher Room)
12-12:50pm

**“Leading by Example: The
Senior Thesis and the Teacher-
Scholar”**

Adam Rosenbaum, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of History

Writing a senior thesis is a standard rite of passage for history majors in American colleges and universities. Professors might extol the virtues of such an exercise, but students often see the senior thesis as a demanding task that consumes a seemingly inordinate amount of time. For many undergraduates, the senior thesis is the figurative Sword of Damocles hanging overhead, and they are intimidated if not mortified by the prospect of writing a paper of twenty pages or more in length.

Attrition rates in courses like HIST 404: Senior Seminar in Historical Research can be high, compelling Assistant Professor of History, Adam T. Rosenbaum, to take drastic measures to guarantee student success during the Spring 2016 semester. After drafting a new syllabus featuring a clearer thematic focus and a five-page bibliography of both primary and secondary sources, he had the potentially foolhardy idea of writing a thesis paper alongside his students, completing all of the assignments over the course of the semester. Did he pull it off?



Please come with your lunch and
bring your colleagues too!