

## DISSERTATION COACHING SERVICES

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I started dissertation coaching in January 2005 because the process of writing a dissertation can be isolating and intimidating, and many students do not get the support they want from faculty or committee members.

Call or e-mail to get started. Please answer as many of the following questions as you can as preparation for our first meeting and return to me by e-mail before our call.

The best dissertation is a done one!

### PREPARATION FOR OUR FIRST CALL

1. What is your dissertation topic?
2. What do you love about this topic? Why does it matter to you? to the world?
3. Do you have a filing date? If so, when is it?
4. What is the outline of your basic argument from beginning to end?
5. If you have one, please send me your Table of Contents listing all the sections or chapters.
6. What sections of the dissertation are complete/nearly complete?
7. What sections are in rough draft form? How much more work is needed on each one? Do you already have the material for each of these sections?
8. Which sections are not yet started?
9. Please note any of the following that apply:
  - I need help with organizing the literature review.

- I need help with figuring out how to organize the material – the argument of each chapter and what supporting material is needed.
- I need someone outside my department/committee to give me a reality check about my writing and whether the overall argument is clear.
- I need to figure out formatting details required by the university and format my work accordingly.
- I need someone to help me plan my schedule and stick to it.

What else do you need?

10. What other significant time commitments do you have aside from the dissertation? If your deadline is tight how can you organize your time most effectively?

11. What would finishing your dissertation mean to you?