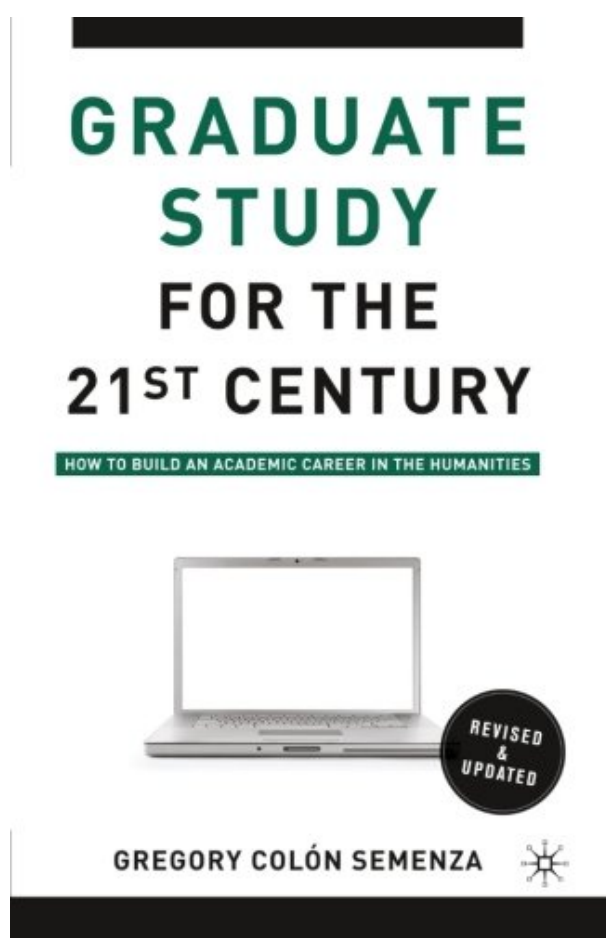


GRADUATE STUDY FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY: HOW TO BUILD AN ACADEMIC CAREER IN THE HUMANITIES

BY G. SEMENZA



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Review

'Gregory Semenza's Graduate Study for the Twenty-first Century is a tough-minded, witty, generous discussion of how to enter the profession of scholarship and teaching. The appendices alone are worth the price of the book; Semenza provides samples of everything from course syllabi and job letters to materials on the teaching portfolio, book prospectus, conference participation everything a serious graduate student needs to succeed. The book should be required reading for graduate students and their professors.' - Barry V. Qualls, Dean of Humanities, Rutgers University, USA

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A Helpful and Cogent Book on Succeeding as a Grad Student in the Humanities

By Cody

It's difficult to find a book like this that focuses on the humanities, is substantive, and does not spend a hundred pages talking about admissions. Sure, getting into a graduate program is really important, and you should hunt down a resource for that, but this book is not trying to do that.

Here, you get an in-depth discussion from someone who really knows their stuff. The book provides practical knowledge without failing to acknowledge academia's larger problems. Thankfully, I found that the book did not become a political rant or focused solely on these problems, but is grounded in the basic understanding that these problems exist and one should be aware of them.

Overall, I found the book to be extremely useful. I'm currently finishing up an MA in English, looking to move on to a PhD, and I wish I had stumbled across this book a couple years ago. While I feel I have made the most of my MA experience, this book would have saved me a lot of trial and error. If you're a graduate student and scholar in the humanities who is serious about their work and making a career in academia, pick this book up. It's certainly worth a read.

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful.

Good blunt information

By Calintz

This guy will not sugar coat anything. He tells you like it is, if you are going to go to graduate school for the humanities or social sciences you better read this book to know what you are getting into. Having now read this book I know that I do not want to get a PhD at all. I now know that my real ambitions would have me more akin to going into law school or maybe a Master's degree. If you are considering graduate school, wondering if a M.A or PhD is the right choice for you, or just want to get familiar with the bureaucracy of academics and hierarchy of the modern college institution this is the book for you.

It is not an easy read and expect to need the dictionary for some complex and often rarely used wording (especially if English happens to be your second or third language). It is worth the effort to understand what is being said and take the time to read this book. It could save you from many years of unsatisfying and demanding work. It may also help you decide what kind of graduate study is right for you.

A great book to compliment this book with would be "Getting what you came for the smart student's guide to earning a master's or PhD". I would recommend you buy both of these books so that you can get a bit more information to make your decision making process a more informative one. After having read these books I now have a much better understanding of where I would like to go in my education.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful.

useful appendix

By E. McCrystal

The appendix is very very useful to anyone thinking about or currently in a doctorate program. It contains excellent examples of CVs, proposals, syllabi, etc. However the tone of the rest of the text is very pessimistic and at times discouraging. Semenza seems to have forgotten the passion involved in academia and focuses more on how you will have no free time or life outside of your studies. This book is a great reality check for those who do not know what doctoral programs are all about, but if you get the picture, then just skip to the appendix.

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