

FALL 2026

Institute of Behavioral Science Professionalization Seminar (“Prosem”)

GEOG-5100-002; PSCI 6851-001; PSYC 6831-001; SOCY 6851-001

Facilitator: Regina Bateson, regina.bateson@colorado.edu

Date and Time: Thursdays from 12-1 pm

Location: Jessor (IBS) 155b unless otherwise posted on the door of 155b

Course Description

Welcome to the IBS Professionalization Seminar for Fall 2026!

This weekly seminar aims to prepare graduate students for academic and policy research careers. Each week, we will have an informal discussion with a guest speaker.

The seminar consists of 11 meetings, which are held on Thursdays from 12-1 pm with lunch provided.

Enrollment and Participation

This seminar is intended for graduate students in the social and behavioral sciences.

Students may choose to enroll for course credit, or they may drop in to sessions that interest them.

Course Credit: Students enrolled for course credit must:

- a) Attend all seminar meetings in person. Each student gets one “free” absence. Beyond that, additional absences will affect your final grade. Exceptions may be made for medical conditions, illnesses, personal emergencies, religious observances, etc. Contact the professor as soon as possible if you need to request additional excused absences.
- b) Complete 3 hours of independent professionalization activities. This can include meeting with mentors in your field, attending workshops in your home department or at conferences, listening to relevant podcasts, reading relevant books, or watching relevant content online.

- c) Submit a short written assignment (max. length: 3 pages double-spaced) summarizing their professional development activities and reflecting on what they learned from each experience. These short written assignments are due by 11:59 pm on Dec. 4, and they should be submitted by email to regina.bateson@colorado.edu.
- d) Identify a fun, inspiring, high-quality online resource related to professional development and share it with the group at our Dec. 3 meeting. This could be a video on YouTube, a TikTok or Instagram account you like to follow, a favorite blogger/influencer, or something else of your choice.

Drop-in visitors: Graduate students who are not enrolled for course credit can drop in to attend sessions that interest them, either on Zoom or in person.

Please RSVP for each session you will attend using this form:

<https://forms.gle/ri4Jznb7y7frhJbA7>

If you'd like to drop in on Zoom, RSVP'ing is essential so I can send you the Zoom link for that day's meeting.

If you plan to drop in in person, RSVP'ing at least 48 hours in advance will help us order the correct amount of food for the group and accommodate your dietary needs.

However, if you are not able to RSVP in advance, or you forget to RSVP, or you spontaneously decide to attend at the last minute, that's fine too. You're still welcome to drop in and join us!

Prosem Schedule, Fall 2026

Aug. 20 – No meeting; Enrolled students should read the syllabus and complete the welcome survey: <https://forms.gle/hMfXtQNbKfpNWokV6>

Aug. 27 – Welcome & Introductions

Sept. 3 – No Meeting; independent work time

Sept. 10 – Working with the IRB with Angie Chromiak, IRB Manager (Panel A)

Sept. 17 – Grant Writing with Beverly Kingston, Director of the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence

Sept. 24 – Life as a Postdoc with a panel of current IBS postdocs

Oct. 1 – Government Service and Policy Careers for PhDs with Cindy Huang, Research Professor, IBS and former Director of Policy at USAID, Director of the Office of Refugee Resettlement at the Department of Health and Human Services, and Vice-President of Strategic Outreach at Refugees International.

Oct. 8 – No Meeting; CU reading day

Oct. 15 – Conversation with IBS Graduate Training Director Aysegul Aydin, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

Oct. 22 – Mixed Methods Research with Jessica Finlay, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and IBS

Oct. 29 – Publishing with Rick Mansfield, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics

Nov. 5 – Professional Networking with Michelangelo Landgrave, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science

Nov. 12 – Applied and Publicly-Engaged Research with Sara Meerow, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, IBS, and CIRES

Nov. 19 – No Meeting; independent work time

Nov. 26 – No Meeting; Thanksgiving

Dec. 3 – Conclusion: Present student-identified online resources and plan next semester
(11 seminar meetings; 3 independent work days; 2 holidays / reading days)