Abstract: The aim of this talk is to show how classification questions concerning sesquilinear forms (without symmetry) over rings with involution can be reduced to questions on hermitian forms in certain hermitian categories. Using the theory of Quebbemann, Scharlau and Schulte, one can then obtain results such as Witt cancellation as well as some base change properties in the case where the ring is a finite dimensional algebra over a field of characteristic not 2.