



## **MA in English Research Proposal - Independent Research Paper or Thesis**

**Due Date: March 1 for students in their first year**

Student Name:

Student email:

Supervisor Name:

Co-Supervisor Name (if applicable):

Date Plan Submitted:

Student Number:

### **1. Title of Research (IRP or Thesis)**

### **2. Proposal**

Attach a proposal to this form.

### **Instructions - Please complete all sections of the form before circulating for signatures**

#### **Independent Research Paper**

The Independent Research Paper (IRP) is a 9-credit academic paper of publishable length (between 7,500-10,000 words) based on independent research conducted by the student.

Early in term two, the coursework MA in English student must submit an "Independent Research Paper Proposal" (IRP Proposal) to his/her supervisor for approval. Typically, completing the proposal is an iterative process in which the student refines and revises the proposed research based on feedback received from the supervisor. The IRP Proposal should consist of a proposal of 1200-1500 words followed by a substantial bibliography (3 pages). After meeting the approval of the supervisor, the IRP proposal must be submitted to the MA in English Coordinator along with this form by March 1. Within one month of submission, the proposal will be evaluated by the GPPC and returned to the student and supervisor as accepted, requiring revisions, or declined. A full explanation of any changes required will be given to the student and supervisor. The student must re-submit until the proposal is accepted.

## Thesis

The thesis is a 12-credit independent research project that advances current knowledge in the student's chosen field and within the larger discipline of literary and cultural studies. Students will work on the thesis project from the inception of their program of study. The thesis will be between 15,000 and 20,000 words based on independent research conducted by the student.

Early in term two, the thesis-option MA in English student must submit a Thesis Proposal to his/her supervisor and supervisory committee. Typically, completing the proposal is an iterative process in which the student refines and revises the proposed research based on feedback received from the supervisor and supervisory committee. The Thesis Proposal should be approximately 2500 words followed by a substantial bibliography (4 pages). After meeting the approval of the supervisor and the committee, the Thesis Proposal must be submitted to the MA in English Coordinator along with this form by March 1. Within one month of submission, the proposal will be evaluated by the GPPC and returned to the student and supervisor as accepted, requiring revisions, or declined. A full explanation of any changes required will be given to the student and supervisor. The student must re-submit until the Proposal is accepted.

Does this proposal require ethics approval?      Yes      No

If yes, has this ethics approval been obtained?      Yes      No  
(if yes, please attach a copy with this form)

Proposal Approved by:

*Signatures:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Supervisor (name)      Signature      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee member #1 (name) \*      Signature      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Committee member #2 (name) \*      Signature      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student (name)      Signature      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Program Coordinator (name)      Signature      Date

\* Please note that in the case of a coursework student writing the IRP, there are no committee members. A "Reader" will be determined by the English MA Coordinator in consultation with the supervisor a week before the IRP is submitted.

Do NOT send to the program coordinator. Please submit completed form to Lacia to collect the final approval from the program coordinator:

**Lacia Vogel: gradstudies.fccs@ubc.ca**