

SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES Thesis Impact Statement: COVID-19

The School of Graduate Studies is aware that many students have been forced to change their research and their thesis in order to comply with restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and public health emergency measures.

SGS recommends writing an COVID-19 Impact Statement that can be sent to examiners (as a separate document from your thesis) so they can understand how your thesis has been forced to change. The three points below are a guide for drafting such a statement. You should aim to keep this statement in the range of 1000- 1500 words, and you should aim to be as clear and precise as possible. Consult with your supervisor(s) while working on this document.

• Describe in about 500 words your thesis methodology PRIOR to the pandemic and changes to lab work/field work/data collection/library and archival resources/research allowances. What did you envision doing in/with communities? In the field? In the lab? In archives or libraries no longer accessible?

• Describe how you changed your research to accommodate public health emergency measures while still completing your thesis. Please be as specific as possible and include dates or a timeline if you have had to alter your research more than once.

• Summarize for your examiners, in no more than 300 words, how your overall thesis has changed. Upon completion of this Impact Statement, ensure that your supervisor(s) and head of academic unit have copies to forward to examiners in addition to your thesis document.

School of Graduate Studies, May 2020