

Master of Gender Studies Thesis/Project/Internship Proposal Evaluation Guidelines

All Master of Gender Studies students will be required to submit their thesis, project or internship proposal to the Graduate Studies Advisory Committee (GSAC). Your supervisor(s) must approve your proposal before your submission. Proposals will be assessed by members of the GSAC and must be approved before you can proceed with your proposed research. The proposal is normally submitted no later than the end of your third semester in the program.

Normally, if the proposal is submitted as stipulated above, the Graduate Coordinator will gather and synthesize the committee members' evaluations and respond to the student and their supervisor within 4 weeks. This response will either:

- indicate approval
- indicate approval and offer recommendations for the student's work on the thesis, project or internship,
- indicate approval and suggest revisions to the proposal,
- indicate that the proposal has not been approved and require revision(s) and resubmission of the proposal.

GSAC Evaluation Criteria for MGS Proposals (All Streams):

1. Clarity of student's statement of research questions, project or internship goals.
2. Demonstration of student's understanding of relevant literature and theory.
3. Demonstration of a clear and coherent plan for research, project design, or internship program and consistency between the plan and the student's stated goals.
4. Demonstration of understanding of and compliance with research ethics, or, for projects and internships, with policies governing professional conduct and confidentiality of relevant bodies apart from the University. Statements and descriptions of ethical considerations and standards of professional conduct must be consistent with project goals (#1) and background preparation (#2). Please note that ethics approval is not required at the approval stage; however, it will need to be acquired before students can begin their proposed research.
5. Feasibility of the proposed work and timeline (i.e., does the student have access to the resources they need and is completion possible within the timeframe of the MGS program).
6. Consideration will also be given to grammar or writing style. Correct grammar, spelling, punctuation and style that is academically appropriate and effective is a requirement in all graduate level work and problems in these areas can prevent successful fulfillment of criteria 1-4, above, and/or approval of the proposal itself.

Additional Stream-specific guidelines and GSAC evaluation criteria:

Internship Proposals

The proposal must clearly describe the host organization for the internship and show how its goals relate to the student's goals for their internship. The student should show knowledge of, and, if possible, evidence of their agreement to comply with the host organizations standards for professional and ethical conduct and client confidentiality. A field supervisor needs to be identified prior to proposal submission

GSAC Criteria: Clarity and consistency in the proposal's description of the host organization, the goals of the internship, and the student's compliance with the host organization's policies.

Project Proposals

The proposal must explain the relationship between Gender Studies scholarship and/or theory, the practical project, and the product or material artifact to be produced. The proposal must outline the content of the final project report and well as describe or outline the contents of the product or material artifact to be produced. The proposal must address any ethical issues or other issues of professional conduct relevant to their project, including any relating to the production and use of the project product or material artifact.

GSAC criteria: Clarity, consistency, and feasibility of the project as a practical application of Gender Studies.

APPROVED: 13 September 2013