



### MA Thesis: Information & Instructions

You are expected to complete a substantial research project and submit it as a thesis. Because of the research emphasis of the Graduate Program, the thesis should be based on your own empirical work. The thesis is one of the most important aspects of the MA year.

Your *MA supervisory committee* is composed of your supervisor and subsidiary advisor, or, if you are co-supervised, your two co-supervisors.

Your thesis should not be longer than 75 pages including references, tables, figures, etc. Given the time constraints, the thesis experiments should be designed so that it is possible to complete the thesis in the allotted time. More experiments, as needed, could be conducted after the thesis is submitted.

Your *MA thesis defense committee* is composed of your MA supervisory committee (supervisor and subsidiary advisor), plus one other graduate faculty member who will act as an examiner. The examiner should have a graduate appointment in Psychology. Please make sure you give a copy of your thesis to the examiner well before the defense date.

After your MA supervisory committee has read and approved your thesis, communicated through the **MA Thesis Appraisal form** (page 2), you and your MA supervisory committee should identify and secure an examiner for your defense, and set a defense date. The defense does not need to be scheduled through the Program, and may occur via Microsoft Teams, Zoom, or Skype. Your supervisor will be responsible for administering the virtual meeting. The defense should be scheduled for one hour, with a 15-20 minute presentation of your findings followed by about 40-45 minutes of questions and discussion.

Your thesis must pass the oral defense before it is submitted to SGS and your degree be recommended. This approval is communicated through the **MA Thesis Defense Approval form** (page 3).

The Program deadline for *submission of the completed forms* is **Monday, September 28, 2020**. Failure to submit these forms by the deadline will result in a delay in processing your degree recommendation, preventing you from graduating in November.

Your *thesis must be submitted electronically to SGS* no later than **Friday, October 2, 2020** in order to meet the SGS deadline for graduation in November and to ensure PhD program registration and funding. MA thesis formatting requirements and submission details can be found on SGS' page, [Producing Your Thesis](#). Please contact Audrey Fong ([sgs.masters@utoronto.ca](mailto:sgs.masters@utoronto.ca)), Program Completion Officer, Masters, with any questions regarding submission of your thesis.

All students are expected to meet the September 28 defense deadline but, if for any reason, you think you will not be able to defend your thesis by that date, you must contact the Graduate Director, Nicole Anderson ([nanderson@research.baycrest.org](mailto:nanderson@research.baycrest.org)) to ask for an extension. Please copy Kathleen ([k.cook@utoronto.ca](mailto:k.cook@utoronto.ca)) on this correspondence.

So, you need to:

1. Write your thesis!
2. Get approval of your thesis from your MA supervisory committee.
  - Complete MA Thesis Appraisal form
3. Identify and secure an examiner.
4. Set a defense date.
5. Defend!
  - Complete MA Thesis Defense Approval form
6. Submit to Kathleen, no later than September 28, the completed forms.
7. Submit to SGS, no later than October 2, an electronic copy of your thesis.



Psychology  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

**MA Thesis Appraisal**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Thesis title:

We have read the above thesis and deem it to be:

Satisfactory

Unsatisfactory

Remarks:

Supervisor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Subsidiary advisor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Subsidiary advisor's signature: \_\_\_\_\_



**MA Thesis Defense Approval**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Thesis title:

**Recommendation:** *The Master's degree be conferred upon the candidate and the thesis be accepted.*

	Name	Signature	Thesis accepted	Thesis not accepted
Supervisor				
Subsidiary advisor				
Examiner				

Remarks: