



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. Your supervisor will be responsible for administering the meeting and sending the information to all participants. The defense should be scheduled for one hour, with a 15-20 minute presentation of your findings followed by 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 27, 2021**. 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 1, 2021** 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), Program Completion Officer, Masters, with any questions regarding submission of your thesis.

All students are expected to meet the September 27 defense deadline, but if you think you will not be able to defend your thesis by this date, please contact the Graduate Director, Dr. Nicole Anderson (nanderson@research.baycrest.org) to ask for an extension. Please copy psy.graduate@utoronto.ca on this correspondence.

So, you need to:

1. Write your thesis!
2. Have your thesis approved by your MA supervisory committee.
 - Complete MA Thesis Appraisal form (page 2)
3. Secure an examiner.
4. Set a defense date.
5. Defend!
 - Complete MA Thesis Defense Approval form (page 3)
6. Submit the completed forms to psy.graduate@utoronto.ca no later than September 27.
7. Submit the final version of your thesis to SGS no later than October 1.



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: