

## **Thesis Proposal**

Before work on the thesis can begin, a thesis proposal must be approved by the student's thesis Supervisory Committee and the Director of Graduate Studies. The proposal should be submitted shortly after the student takes the qualifying examination, and in any case not later than the beginning of the fourth post-Bachelor's year.

### *Details:*

Students should discuss their thesis proposal with members of their Thesis Advisory Committee and have obtained their agreement to serve on the Committee before submitting thesis proposals.

Thesis proposals will be presented to the Director of Graduate Studies. The thesis proposal should adhere to the following format and include the following information:

The proposal should have a logical structure and be written in clear, grammatical English.

It must not exceed 1,250 words (approximately 5 double-spaced pages).

It must include a title. (This title may be revised in the final version of the thesis).

The supervisor and members of the Thesis Advisory Committee must be indicated on the proposal.

The proposal should include a statement of the research problem and the approach the student will take in tackling that problem. This will include chronological, disciplinary, and geographical limits of the thesis. The research problem should be situated in the scholarly literature. The student should justify the need for this research and show how this work will be an original contribution to knowledge.

The student should comment on the sources, both archival and published, their location and accessibility, say whether additional foreign languages will be required, indicate how much travel and residence away from Toronto may be necessary, and demonstrate that the thesis is feasible in the time available for its completion (ideally 2.5 years, to a maximum of 4 years).