

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, M.A. PROJECT PAPER PROPOSAL FORM

The M.A. Project Paper typically arises from a research essay written for a graduate-level English course. It should be article-length, 25-30 pages (8,000 – 9,000 words), including Works Cited and Consulted. As an original study supported by a clear methodological and critical framework, the project paper is an opportunity to substantially revise an existing essay, clarifying and strengthening the argumentative line, refining close readings, and accounting for a fulsome body of criticism within the field of inquiry. The outcome should be an article-quality paper, ready for submission to an academic journal.

The M.A. Project Paper Proposal is to be developed with the Supervisor and submitted with the completed M.A. Project Paper Proposal form to the Graduate Chair for review by **31 May** of the first year of the M.A. Project degree. As an attachment to this form, the proposal should provide an overview of the research project of approximately 2 pages in length and a 1-2 page bibliography.

Approval of the proposal does not bind the student to a given approach, nor does it cement the scope of the project paper unyieldingly. The final organization, argument, and conclusions of the project are the candidate's responsibility, in consultation with the Supervisor. If the approved subject is abandoned, a new proposal must be submitted.

- **Identifying Information**

Name of Student:

Name of Supervisor:

Date Proposal Submitted to Graduate Chair:

Working Title:

The ECC has agreed in principle that the working titles of all approved proposals will be added to the Department of English web page. Your permission is granted ____ OR not granted ____.

- **Concise Statement of Research Objectives** *(150-250 words)*
- **Supervisor's Comments** *(Indicate the potential value of the project and its feasibility, the latter based on such factors as the scope of the project, the availability of resources, and the student's preparedness for the research.)*

Signature of Supervisor:

- **M.A. Project Proposal**
On the pages that follow, provide a description of your research project, indicating the material to be studied, the issue(s) to be addressed, the research questions that structure the paper, and the methods and/or analytical framework that will be used. Further, please identify the specific areas of an existing essay that will be revised towards meeting the standard for the M.A. Project degree. Provide also a working bibliography of primary and secondary sources.

