

NON-THESIS PROJECT GUIDELINES

Non-thesis MA students should determine with their advisor by early in their second year whether they will write a paper or present a project in their final semester. While the University requires only one member to serve on the non-thesis committee (the advisor), CWSGR encourages students to identify a second committee member by this time. For the non-thesis MA, advisor and committee members may be selected from core or affiliated faculty in Women's Studies.

Students electing to write a paper should identify a suitable topic in the area of gender and women's studies for a journal article-length work of high quality, possibly with a view toward future publication. This paper is generally shorter than a thesis and does not need to be submitted to the Graduate College, but it must be judged as a substantive and well-presented work by the student's committee.

Students who elect to carry out a project must submit a proposal to their advisor for approval before undertaking the project. Suitable projects might include, but are not limited to, the writing of a grant proposal, development of a community-based organization, or production of a creative work. In addition to the project, students must write an essay of approximately 15 pages detailing the project's significance to gender and women's studies.

Both options for the non-thesis MA require an oral defense / presentation, which will be open to faculty and students in CWSGR. As in the cases of theses, papers and projects should be available or on view ten working days before the scheduled defense.