

MA in English: Capstone Project Proposal: Due September 7, 2012

Students: Please submit a thesis or independent study proposal to your faculty director and to Sally Wieringa by Friday, **September 7, 2011**.

Purposes of this form and the proposal

1. The proposal expands and provides details about your capstone project as you described it briefly in the preliminary form on April 20.
2. The proposal provides a basis for discussion of the proposed project with the project committee no later than September 21, 2012. After that conference, you and the committee may agree to modify the project scope or methods. You will revise your proposal to submit by September 23.

Student _____ ID # _____

Faculty director _____ Project type Thesis Independent study

Reader 1 _____ Reader 2 (for thesis) _____

Title of proposed study (limit to 30 characters): _____

Attach a proposal and a bibliography.

The proposal should be at least 3 pages long, but 10-12 pages is not too long. A thoroughly developed proposal will enable your committee to provide more direction than a sketchy idea. The words of a well-developed proposal are likely to become part of the project, perhaps its introduction, and good work now will minimize the work you have to do for the revised proposal due September 23, 2011.

Please include: A statement of the problem that invites or requires study. Often the “problem” is a need to reinterpret, to fill in gaps in knowledge, or to correct misinformation.

Literature review. You may be able to describe the problem by referring to previously published work, but you should at least indicate how your work will connect to existing work. This literature review can be tentative and preliminary, but it should establish that your project connects to work in English Studies.

Method. Describe how you will conduct your study. You may use a variety of methods so long as they are appropriate for the research, including (but not limited to) literature review, close reading, interview, and textual editing.

Bibliography. Identify at least 12 relevant sources.

Approvals/Signatures

Student _____ Date _____

Faculty Director _____ Date _____

Director of Graduate Studies _____ Date _____

Reader 1 _____ Date _____

Reader 2 _____ Date _____