

# MFA Thesis Checklist

Creative Writing MFA Program, Fresno State

Revised: 8/04/2020

## YEAR ONE

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fall Registration: sign up for 1 unit of ENGL299 for Spring semester + other coursework</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing: Create and workshop new work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Meet with faculty in your genre to begin discussions about your Thesis Committee Chair</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Begin planning and preparing for thesis in ENGL299</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Spring Registration: sign up for 1 unit of ENGL299 for Fall semester + other coursework</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Complete and submit paper (often from a 250T or Lit course) to fulfil Graduate Writing Requirement (see <a href="#">handbook</a> for description)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing: Create and workshop new work</li> </ul>

## YEAR TWO

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> September: Meet with MFA Coordinator to complete your <a href="#">Advancement to Candidacy Form</a> (ATC)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Fall Registration: sign up for 1 unit of ENGL299 for Spring + other coursework</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Nov 1: Deadline to identify preferences for Thesis Committee Chair; complete <a href="#">online form</a> listing top Chair preferences</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> End of Fall semester: Meet with Chair, discuss possibilities for 2nd and 3rd thesis committee members</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> If not completed already, complete and submit paper (often from a 250T or Lit course) to fulfil Graduate Writing Requirement (see <a href="#">handbook</a> for description)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing: Create and workshop new work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Jan: If not done already, meet with MFA Coordinator to complete your <a href="#">Advancement to Candidacy Form</a> (ATC)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Feb 15: Identify and contact 2nd and 3rd thesis committee members</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> March: Complete <a href="#">Thesis Committee Assignment form</a></li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Spring Registration: sign up for 1 unit of ENGL299 + other coursework</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> End of Spring semester: meet with Chair to discuss thesis goals and devise a writing plan for summer</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> End of Spring semester: in coordination with Chair, devise plans for completing culminating contextualizing essay</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing: Create and workshop new work, continue thesis planning and preparation in ENGL 299</li> </ul>

## YEAR THREE

Fall Semester	Spring Semester
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> Early Sept: <a href="#">Graduate Application filing period</a> for Fall graduates</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Early Sept: Meet with Chair to devise semester plan for writing/submitting drafts for review</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Fall Registration: Register for 2 units of ENGL299 with your Chair (see <a href="#">registration deadlines</a>) for Spring + any remaining coursework</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Early November: <a href="#">Final Thesis submission</a> deadline Fall graduates*</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Late Fall: Present work at MFA Showcase, if not doing so in Spring</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing: Create and workshop new work</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><input type="checkbox"/> January: <a href="#">Graduate Application filing period</a> (see <a href="#">DRGS</a> deadlines) for Spring graduates.</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Early Feb: Submit full draft to Chair</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> March 1: Submit full draft to 2nd and 3rd committee members; schedule defense</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Late March: Complete Thesis Defense with your Thesis Committee</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Early April: <a href="#">Final Thesis submission</a> (see <a href="#">DRGS</a> deadlines; see <a href="#">thesis template</a> for formatting)</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Late April: Submit culminating contextualizing narrative to Chair</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Late Spring: If not done already, present work at MFA Showcase</li><li><input type="checkbox"/> Mid-May: Committee submits “<a href="#">Graduate Degree Clearance</a>” Forms to DRGS</li></ul>

\*If you're considering graduating a semester early, please contact your Chair immediately to make sure you are on track with [DRGS](#) deadlines and requirements.