

MA SUPERVISOR

Please return form with signatures to Denise by mid-December
This form is available in Word format in OWL→More Sites→SOCGRADSINFO→Resources

Student	
Preliminary Research Question	
Collaborative Program	<input type="checkbox"/> MER <input type="checkbox"/> TJ <input type="checkbox"/> not applicable (check one)
Stream	<input type="checkbox"/> Thesis <input type="checkbox"/> Research Paper (check one)

Research Paper

In the second semester of study, students will be required to participate in sessions designed to meet the requirements of the MA Sociological Research Practicum Milestone. Students will complete their courses during the Fall and Winter terms, and will complete the research paper in the Summer term. This paper will be graded by the research paper supervisor. The *Research Paper Overview and Formatting* document in the Graduate Handbook provides details regarding formatting as well as the steps to completion of the research paper http://www.sociology.uwo.ca/graduate_handbook/MA.html

I hereby agree to assume primary responsibility for supervision of the research paper and its progress throughout the winter term (while the student is taking the MA research writing seminar) and until completion of the research paper:

Supervisor	Signature	Date
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Thesis

Entry into the thesis stream requires the development and approval of a preliminary thesis proposal of 2-5 pages and the agreement of a supervisor who supports entry into this stream.

Students will complete their courses during the Fall and Winter terms, and will complete the thesis proposal in the Summer term, under the supervision of the supervisory committee. The Graduate Handbook provides further details regarding the thesis proposal requirements – http://www.sociology.uwo.ca/graduate_handbook/MA.html

Students in the thesis stream must have a supervisory committee, consisting of a supervisor plus one additional faculty member with appropriate SGPS membership. The expectation is that the additional faculty member will be named in the winter term, allowing him/her to provide feedback beginning at the proposal stage and throughout the writing process, and will read the thesis in its entirety before preliminary submission of the thesis. The additional faculty member usually serves as a ‘supervisory committee member.’ Although less common, the additional faculty member may be in the form of a second supervisor (usually in lieu of a supervisory committee member). Descriptions of each designation and details regarding expectations are provided below.

In their second year, thesis stream students write and defend their thesis. At the thesis ‘defense’ stage, an examining board must be named by the supervisor(s). Examining board members include two program examiners (from our Department) and one University examiner (from Western but outside Sociology). One supervisory committee member (not a supervisor) with SGPS status in our program may serve on the examining board. See Denise for further details.

I hereby agree to assume primary responsibility for supervision of the thesis:

Supervisor	Signature	Date
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Supervisory Committee Member	Signature	Date
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Student Signature

Date

Supervisory Committee Member: The expectation in our department is that the supervisory committee member will serve as a “reader,” providing feedback beginning at the proposal stage and throughout the writing process, and will read the thesis in its entirety before preliminary submission of the thesis. Where deemed necessary, it is possible to name more than one supervisory committee member. One supervisory committee member may subsequently serve as a thesis program examiner. Examiners must be seen to be able to examine the student and the thesis at arm's-length, free of substantial conflict of interest. See section 8.4.2.1 of the SGPS *Thesis Regulations* for further details - http://grad.uwo.ca/current_students/regulations/8.html#8326

Supervisor: This designation indicates that the faculty member has the appropriate level of supervisory membership and primary responsibility for overseeing the Master's or Doctoral thesis research. This designation also indicates primary credit for such supervision.

Joint-Supervisors: This designation is applicable where two faculty members in a program supervise a thesis, both of whom have the same level of supervisory membership, and thus share joint responsibility for the thesis. Joint supervision can apply to both Master's and Doctoral theses. These arrangements allow both faculty members to receive equal credit for supervision. Only one of the joint supervisors must be a core member of the program granting the student's degree. The expectation in our department is that both supervisors provide advice and criticism throughout the writing process and read the thesis in its entirety before preliminary submission of the thesis.

Co-Supervisors: This designation is applied where two faculty members supervise a Master's thesis, one of whom has Master's or Doctoral membership, and the other has a Non-Thesis membership. This designation can also be applied where two faculty members supervise a Doctoral thesis, one of whom has Doctoral membership and the other has Master's membership. These co-supervisory arrangements allow faculty members without significant supervisory membership to gain supervisory experience via a mentoring process of working with senior faculty. Both faculty members receive equal credit for supervision. The expectation in our department is that both supervisors provide advice and criticism throughout the writing process and read the thesis in its entirety before preliminary submission of the thesis.

Alternate Supervisor: For all Master's or Doctoral Supervisory Members who are not employed by UWO (e.g., those with a current Casual Academic Appointment, such as emeritus faculty or off-site research adjunct professors), an alternate Supervisor must be appointed by the Graduate Program Chair for each student supervised. The alternate Supervisor must have the appropriate level of supervisory membership for the student in question (Master's or Doctoral), and must be able to assume the supervisory role if necessary.