

GUIDELINES OF THE MAJOR ESSAY

Graduate Students in the Non-Thesis Stream are expected to demonstrate a rigorous and scholarly approach to the discipline of family medicine by writing an essay of approximately 2000 words on a topic of relevance to family medicine and includes a critical review of the relevant literature.

The student is required to submit a one-two page proposal of their major essay to the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee outlining their plans. The following outlines the format of the proposal;

- Title of Major Essay
- Topic area relevant to Family Practice Issue:
 - Philosophical issue
 - Ethical issue
 - Educational issue
- Begin by stating your position or perspective on this topic
- Supporting extant literature review (1 page)

Following a proposal from the graduate student, a supervisor will be assigned by the Chair of the Program through the Graduate Studies Committee to act as a resource person to the graduate student. The supervisor will contact the student periodically and will review a draft of the paper and provide feedback and guidance.

The essay must be considered satisfactory by the supervisor and a written approval submitted from the supervisor to the Chair of the program before review by two other faculty members selected by the Chair. The major essay will be judged on the following criteria:

- 1) Quality of scholarship
- 2) Relevance to the discipline of family medicine
- 3) Clarity of expression
- 4) Originality
- 5) Literary quality

The style of the essay should conform to the usual standards required by a medical journal. The essay should be typed double-spaced and include a title page. It should be submitted to the Program Chair after signed approval by supervisor.

PLEASE NOTE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF ESSAYS IS TWO MONTHS PRIOR TO THE UNIVERSITY DEADLINE TO ENSURE ADEQUATE TIME FOR REVISIONS, AND PROJECTS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE CHAIR OF THE GRADUATE STUDIES PROGRAM.

Final Grade Non–Thesis (595) Course

Once the student has completed both the Research Project and the Major Essay and the reviewers have accepted and graded the papers, the final mark is then calculated. The final grade is an average of the two grades from the research project and the two grades received from the major essay. No grade can be submitted until all the reviewers are satisfied with the final paper and the grade has been assigned.

SAMPLE TITLE PAGE

TITLE OF MAJOR ESSAY

By

STUDENTS NAME

Department of Family Medicine

A RESEARCH PROJECT OR MAJOR ESSAY (please indicate which) submitted
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Clinical Science

School of Graduate & Postdoctoral Studies
Western University
London, Ontario

DATE

Supervisor(s):