

**QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING  
MA and MSc  
REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS**

The following statement applies to all candidates entering the Master's program in Geography. It is consistent with the [General Regulations](#) for Graduate Study, which appear in the [Calendar](#) of the School of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Affairs (SGSPA), and should be read in conjunction with those guidelines.

**A THE DEGREE PROGRAM IN**



# C THE FULL THESIS (MA AND MSc) IN GEOGRAPHY

MA and MSc students in the Department of Geography and Planning have the option of writing a traditional thesis or a manuscript thesis.

## 1 Scope

The Master's thesis is a major requirement of our program. It must comprise a coherent and unified research project. It must be focused upon a theme, thesis, or research question. It must be well written and display a scholarly understanding of the subject. It must include a review of previous work related to the research project and a concluding summation of the thesis' contribution to the subject.

## 2 Length

The suggested length of a full thesis is no more than 200 pages of text. Manuscript theses require a minimum of one manuscript in addition to the introduction, literature review (optional at discretion of supervisor in consultation with the student), and conclusions.

## 3 Original Research

A full thesis must involve the collection, analysis and interpretation of primary material from field, laboratory, theoretical, or archival research.

## 4 Form

Please see "[General Form of Theses](#)" available at the School of Graduate Studies

The following are other requirements for the manuscript thesis option:

2. References can be included at the end of each chapter.  
Formatting must be consistent with the SGSPA guidelines.

## **D THE HALF THESIS (MA AND MSc) IN GEOGRAPHY**

### **1 The half thesis may take**

**E PROCEDURES REGARDING THE CONVENING,  
MEMBERSHIP, AND PROCESSING OF  
ORAL THESIS EXAMINATIONS**

1.

7. If two (2) or more negative reports are received no later than three (3) working days prior to the examination, they will be

## **2 Procedure for Application to Geography Graduate Committee**

The student will meet with the Supervisor and Graduate Chair to agree upon whether transferring to the PhD program without completing the Master's thesis is a good strategy. During this meeting the ramifications of the transfer to the doctoral program are to be clearly outlined for the student. If approved by the Department, an application will be completed by the student for submission to the appropriate Geography Graduate Committee.

The following documents are required for submission to the Geography Graduate Committee and the appropriate Graduate Council:

- current transcript (internal transcript acceptable)
- a brief justification outlining the student's qualifications (to be completed by the supervisor)
- outline of student's current and proposed research
- completed application package (including 2 letters of reference) for admittance to the doctoral program.

The application will be forwarded to the Chair of the Geography Graduate Committee, who will either admit the student into the PhD program, or who will bring it to the next Geography Graduate Committee meeting for discussion. If the promotion is accepted by the Geography Graduate Committee, the application is then submitted to the SGSPA for final approval. If the Chair of that Council is not able to make a decision, and brings the application to the entire committee, the departmental Graduate Chair (or delegate from Geography and Planning) and the student's Supervisor will attend the Council meeting when this application is discussed.

## **3 Timing**

Transfer to the PhD program will be made official at the start of the term following approval by the appropriate Graduate Council.

## **4 PhD Qualifying Exam for Students Promoted to the PhD Program**

The PhD Qualifying (i.e. Comprehensive) exam should be taken as soon as possible after promotion to the PhD program but must be completed within 12 months after the start of enrollment in