

Thesis Proposal Presentation

The MS thesis student, at the discretion of thesis adviser, will present his/her thesis proposal at the time of committee selection, at the latest one quarter before the thesis defense when filing the “Advancement to Candidacy Form”. Thesis committee members can condition their participation based on the thesis proposal presentation.

Thesis Proposal Presentation Guidelines (if required)

Purpose

The purpose of the Thesis Proposal presentation is for the student to demonstrate the quality, feasibility, and academic merit of the proposed research and to receive constructive feedback from the committee. It is also an opportunity for the thesis committee members to confirm that the proposed research falls sufficiently within their areas of expertise and interest for them to be an effective member of the Thesis Committee.

Procedure

The MS thesis student will present his/her thesis proposal at the time of committee selection, at the latest one quarter before the thesis defense when filing the “Advancement to Candidacy Form”. It is the responsibility of the student to schedule a time acceptable to the committee. The committee should attend and provide feedback.

The thesis presentation will be scheduled for 50 minutes with a 15 minute overview of the proposed research addressing the following:

- Significance of the proposed study
- Scope and objectives of the proposed research
- A review of the major findings of previous research in the related field
- Relevant work completed/preliminary observations
- List of research questions to be investigated
- A schedule outlining the anticipated dates of completion of each task
- List of references reviewed

The oral presentation is followed by questions and suggestions from the committee.

Although it is expected that all thesis research will include a Thesis Proposal presentation, your individual Thesis Advisor may choose not to require it as part of your particular project. Thesis Committee members, however, can condition their agreement to participate further based on whether or not the Thesis Proposal presentation is completed, or on the information conveyed at the presentation.