

Guidelines for Creative Project Proposal

Deadline: Two months before the term in which you intend to write the creative project (i.e. March 1, July 1, or November 1). Late proposals will not be considered until the next deadline.

Length: Creative project proposals should be 400-500 words. It should also include a 1-page preliminary bibliography and must be accompanied by a portfolio of relevant, recent creative work.

Purpose: To describe your proposed creative project, its context, and its methodology and/or poetics.

Audience: The Graduate Studies Committee (all professors involved in graduate teaching) reviews all proposals. Keep in mind that not all members of the committee will necessarily be familiar with the topic of your project.

Keys to a successful proposal: It should be clearly written and well organized; be specific, both in reference to your proposed project and the context in which you are producing it. Proofread your proposal.

Structure: Your creative project proposal should include the following:

1. Project Description: **What** do you intend to make? Specify the genre, format, and style of the writing project and situate it in relation to an existing body of contemporary creative work. This should be as clearly articulated as possible.
2. Methods, Narrative Approaches, and/or Poetics: **How** will you make it? Specify the method, narrative approaches, and/or poetics of the project. What invention strategies will you employ? What sources, materials, themes and/or theories will you be working with?
3. Background: **Why** is your project worth pursuing? What critical and/or creative objectives will the project accomplish? How will your project demonstrate knowledge of and contribute to an existing body of contemporary creative work?

NOTE: You should have arranged for a supervisor before beginning work on this proposal, and should consult extensively with your supervisor in developing your proposal. You may not submit a proposal without the agreement of a potential supervisor.

Students are required to submit to the Graduate Coordinator a hard and digital copy of the proposal and the portfolio, accompanied by the Creative Project Proposal Form.