M.A. in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts

Brock University

Policies and Procedures Manual

Table of Contents

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Graduate Program Websites

Faculty of Graduate Studies
https://experience.brocku.ca/Graduate_Study/GradStudies.ezc

MA Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts
https://brocku.ca/humanities/departments-and-centres/modern-languages/graduate-program

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INTRODUCTION   General Course Policies and Procedures[1]

1.1   Objectives of the Program

The M.A. Program will attract students from a variety of disciplines. Students will apply the critical skills and knowledge from their undergraduate specialization to this program of study. They will further develop their abilities to think critically across disciplines and will be equipped either to find employment or to pursue another post-graduate degree in interdisciplinary studies such as the Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Humanities at Brock University or a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature or in the discipline of their first degree. Depending on the students' background and on the requirement for subsequent training, career opportunities include curator, art critic, digital graphic artist or designer, gallery or museum administrator, art therapist, playwright, drama critic, drama therapist, university lecturer, community college instructor or assistant in the field of editing. Some recent graduates of Comparative Literature programs report that their decision to pursue a degree in this field arose from a commitment to the idea of the interconnectedness of fields of knowledge and from an awareness that this occasion afforded maximum individual freedom in the scholastic arena.

1.2   Graduate Program Director

The Program Director reports to the Dean of Humanities and usually occupies the position for a term of three years. She or he will normally be a tenured faculty member in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures (MLLC) where the program is administratively housed. The Administrative Assistant for the program is also the Administrative Assistant for the Department of MLLC.

It is the duty of the GPD to oversee the graduate program. The GPD carries out all duties in consultation with the Program Committee and the Associate Dean of Humanities, Graduate Studies and Research, with the support of a Graduate Administrative Assistant, appointed by the Associate Dean. The GPD receives a half course release per year.

Specific duties include:

- Serve as Chair of the Program Committee.

- Provide guidance to students who are enquiring about the program and/or about their options within the program.

- Provide guidance for resident graduate students with respect to their applications for external scholarships and fellowships.

- Be available as a source of guidance with respect to students' interactions with the program, including the selection of courses.

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[1] Note that some program regulations are governed by the Brock University Faculty Handbook which can be updated at any time during the academic year. This program handbook is updated only once a year in the fall. Therefore, it is always key to consult the Faculty Handbook for the latest policies. While some regulations may be grandfathered, some others as well as changes in process and administration of policy may not.

- Oversee the preparation and maintenance of graduate program materials, which include advertising posters, the program web page, the *Brock Graduate Calendar* and other university publications. Liaise with the Faculty of Humanities Social Media facilitator.

- Work with the Associate Dean of Humanities, Graduate Studies and Research, and with the Faculty of Graduate Studies to promote the program. Liaise with the Office of Research Services and the Vice-President, Research and Associate Vice-President, Research (Humanities and Social Sciences) to generate opportunities for students in the program.

- Oversee the Program budget.

- Co-ordinate course scheduling, teaching arrangements, course assessment and feedback, and course and curriculum development.

- Co-ordinate TA positions/funding for incoming students.

- Meet with the incoming students, review program policies and expectations, and post the most recent copy of the *Policies and Procedures Manual* on the program website.

- Oversee a program orientation and social occasion to welcome incoming graduate students in the Fall of each year.

- Ensure that all students' files are kept up-to-date with respect to their progress, grades, graduate record forms, and so on.

- Oversee students' progress through monitoring grades and arranging for their progress reports. The GPD brings any problems to the attention of the Program Committee.

- Bring students' concerns to the attention of the Program Committee and liaise with the Student Representative.

- Oversee arrangements for MA thesis oral defense as per the Faculty of Graduate Studies guidelines. This involves contacting all members of the MA defense examination committee, determining a time and room for the examination, advertising the examination (on the program website and where appropriate).

- Provide copies of the completed MA thesis to the External Examiner and all other members of the Examining Committee, and ensure that the written comments of the External Examiner are received at least one week prior to the thesis oral examination.

- The GPD is a member of the Graduate Council and attends its monthly meetings. The purpose of Graduate Council is to provide a forum for GPDs, and others involved in graduate programs, to meet and exchange ideas about administrative aspects of graduate programs.

1.2.1 Nomination of Program Director

The Department of MLLC will normally recommend to the Program Committee a nomination of a tenured member of the department; nomination may also come from the Program Committee. The nominee must have taught in SCLA or have been a member of the Graduate Core Committee. The nomination will be ratified by the Program Committee.

1.2.2   Nomination of Interim Program Director

When an Interim Program Director is needed the current Program Director will solicit nominations from the Program Committee subject to the same restrictions outlined in 1.2.1. Nominees will be ratified by vote by the Program Committee.

1.3 Graduate Core Committee

1.3.1   Core Faculty Members

Core Faculty members serve a three-year term and may apply for renewal. Colleagues who wish to renew their membership or to become members of the Core Faculty are asked to submit a brief letter and an up-to-date CV. In the letter, they should outline their interest in participating in the program as well as their research expertise relevant to the program. The Graduate Committee reviews all applications.

1.3.2   Adjuncts, including emeriti, will not be granted supervisory privilege but may be allowed to serve on supervisory committees at the discretion of the Program Committee.

1. 4 Graduate Program Committee

The Program Committee consists of the Graduate Program Director, at least 5 core faculty members including all core faculty members teaching in the program, and the Student Representative. The Student Representative is a voting member of the committee except on matters of admission, awards adjudication, and other confidential matters concerning students and faculty. All members are appointed by the GPD and will serve a 3-year term. It is the duty of the Program Committee to oversee and monitor the graduate program and to plan for further program development when appropriate. It is also the duty of the Program Committee to consider feedback about the program provided by the students. On the basis of this feedback, the Program Committee is in the position to make recommendations that would deal with student concerns. These recommendations are forwarded to the appropriate individuals by the GPD.

Quorum for Program Committee meetings shall be 3 members of the committee and the GPD. A simple majority vote is sufficient to pass motions. The GPD does not vote except in cases of ties.

2.   PROGRAM REGULATIONS

2.1   General Information

Students admitted to the M.A. Program in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts will normally come from undergraduate programs in the following disciplines: Canadian Studies, Classics, Communications Studies, Comparative Literature, Cultural Studies, Drama, English Language and Literature, Fine Arts, Film Studies, History, International Studies, Modern Languages and Literatures, Music, Philosophy, Political Science or Women's Studies.

Students may have earned a B.A. (Honours) in a single discipline or a Combined Major degree (Honours) in any of the disciplines mentioned. Students interested in this degree may benefit from the opportunity to move towards an interdisciplinary and trans-cultural approach to the study of literatures and arts. The students benefit

from the diversity of disciplines brought together in this program.

The M.A. Program is designed with this diversity of student background in mind. While they may complete their degree by writing either a Major Research Paper (40-50 pages) or a Thesis (75-100 pages), students are strongly encouraged to select the first option, as this will allow them to do more course work and, therefore, gain more extensive experience in the comparative analysis of literature and the arts.

2.2   Admission Standards and Procedures

Applications for admission to the M.A. Program, on a full-time or part-time basis, will be accepted from applicants holding an Honours degree with an overall average of at least 75% in a relevant discipline or interdisciplinary program (for example, Canadian Studies, Classics, Communications Studies, Comparative Literature, Cultural Studies, Drama, English Language and Literature, Fine Arts, Film Studies, History, International Studies, Modern Languages and Literatures, Music, Philosophy, Political Science or Women and Gender Studies). Applicants should have completed several courses in literature or literary theory, the performing or visual arts as part of their undergraduate program. Applicants must supply a personal statement, outlining their research or study interests in the field of Comparative Literatures and Arts, and letters from two referees who can attest to the applicant's suitability for graduate studies.

The Program Committee, minus the student representative, will make decisions regarding admissions. Applications and accompanying materials will be submitted electronically to the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Committee members will be given access to the applications database, maintained by the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and can begin review applications in advance of February 1, the closing date for applications.

After February 1, each Program Committee member will consider the applications and make a short list, taking into account the qualifications of each candidate, funding limitations, and program limitations due to teaching and other resources. Faculty members may be invited and/or may request to meet with the Committee during this process (e.g., a faculty member may wish to make a case for accepting a particular applicant). In the interests of protecting potential students, faculty members, and the program, the Committee may also raise concerns about potential supervisors. In the event that concerns arise about a potential supervisor, the GPD will discuss those concerns with the faculty member identified as potential supervisor and report back to the Committee with a recommendation for resolution. The Program Committee will typically make its final selection in consultation with the potential supervisor and subject to the approval of the Dean of Graduate Studies. The GPD chairs admissions meetings and engages in discussion but does not vote on specific candidates. However, most decisions are made by consensus. Voting becomes necessary only if there are opposing views.

Offers of admission will not be made unless/until the applicant's file is complete: strong applicants, whose files are not complete, will be contacted by the GPD and informed of the program's interest, but no firm offer will be given until all documents are submitted.

2.2.1 Funding Policy

The Committee will be guided in its selection of new graduate students by a funding policy developed to ensure that:

1. All students in normal residence in the program are offered financial support for the 12 month duration of the program. There are four general sources of funding for graduate students: a) Fellowships - administered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies and available to all full-time students; b) Graduate teaching assistantships – co-ordinated by the GPD and administered by the Department where the TAship takes place in the first year; c) Research grant contributions - from the student's supervisor or other faculty members, when available; d) External awards (e.g. OGS, SSHRC) - administered by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. The amount of all sources of funding is variable.

2. The distribution to students of financial resources such as Teaching and/or Research Assistantships is carried out in a fair and equitable manner, taking into account the interests and abilities of the student and the availability of funds.

2.2.2 Offers of Financial Support

Students offered admission in the program shall be informed of the normal completion time for the program, the minimum total level of financial support that is promised, the period of time over which this support will be provided, and any special conditions concerning continuation of the support.

The minimum total level of financial support may include amounts received from internal scholarships and bursaries, as well as all four sources of funding mentioned in the funding policy, above. The source and amount of funds may vary over the period of graduate studies. As well, fellowship funds from the University may be used in a discretionary manner to entice highly qualified students. The basic funding for any student must not drop below the minimum requirement as designated by the Dean of Graduate Studies.

2.2.3 Continuation of Financial Support

A student whose performance has been reviewed by the Program Committee and is judged to be unsatisfactory will normally receive written warning and suggestions for improvement. If the student's performance does not improve sufficiently within a reasonable time period or if a student fails to meet program requirements and is put on academic probation by a Program Committee decision, financial support may be reduced or discontinued. Written warning and an opportunity for improvement need not be given in cases of serious misconduct or serious neglect of duties.

It is recognized that difficulties may arise owing to inadequate transfer payments from the province, or to non-renewal of external research grants and contracts. However, the University will make every effort to maintain financial support for continuing graduate students at the levels promised. Primary responsibility rests with the Program and the Office of Graduate Studies, where decisions concerning admissions and offers of financial support are made.

2.2.4 Full-time Students

Full-time graduate students are defined as students whose main purpose is graduate study for the purpose of obtaining a graduate degree. Graduate study differs from undergraduate study in that it is for most students an activity that is highly concentrated, demanding and all-consuming. Full-time graduate students are defined according to regulations as follows:

• they must be pursuing their studies as a full-time occupation and identify themselves as full-time graduate students in all documentation;

• they must be considered by the University to be in full-time study;

• they must maintain regular contact with their graduate program director and supervisor;

• they must be geographically available and visit the campus regularly. Without forfeiting full-time status, a graduate student, while under supervision, may be absent from the university (e.g. visiting libraries, doing field work, attending a graduate course at another institution, etc.) provided that, if any such absence exceeds four weeks in any one term, written approval of the student's absence by the Graduate Program Director is forwarded to the Faculty of Graduate Studies and approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies (or designate); (see brocku.ca/graduate-studies/current-students/student-forms)

• it is advisable for full-time graduate students to notify their Graduate Program Director and supervisor of any employment undertaken outside the University; they must limit University employment to an average of no more than ten hours a week of University paid work in a given term. This ten hour a week rule applies to paid employment on campus and includes Graduate Teaching Assistantships and Research Assistantships. Approval to work on campus for more than an average of ten hours per week requires the approval of the graduate supervisor, the Graduate Program Director, and the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Exceptionally, students may request part-time status. This, however, may impact the funding one receives.

2.2.5   Graduate Student Employment, Duties, and Rates of Pay

According to University regulations, students "must limit University employment to an average of no more than ten hours a week of University paid work in a given term." This includes Graduate Teaching Assistantships (GTA) and Research Assistantships (RA). Normally, each graduate student will be assigned the equivalent of two Graduate Teaching Assistantships for each of four years of full-time study in the MA program. Each of these has a nominal workload of 120 hours (60 per term). However, a graduate student is permitted to work an average of 10 hours per week at University employment for the 16 weeks that make up each of the three terms (fall, winter, spring/summer). This amounts to a total of 160 hours per term. Beyond the 160 hours, the graduate student must have *prior* approval from the Thesis/MRP Supervisor, the Graduate Program Director, and the Dean of Graduate Studies by completing the Request for Approval of Extra On-Campus Employment Hours form. Students who are not on track with their program requirements and/or who are on probationary status will not be given permission to work extra hours.

In some cases, students receive Research Fellowships and Research Assistantship support to work on their own thesis research. In such circumstances, requirements as to maximum hours of work do not apply. However, when payment is for assistance with research not closely related to the student's thesis research, the average number of hours worked per week must not exceed ten (including TA hours, if applicable); the rate of pay will follow the Office of Research Services guidelines.

Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship

GTA positions, including duties and rates of pay, are regulated in accordance with the CUPE 4207 Collective Agreement: https://brocku.ca/human-resources/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/Unit-1-1.pdf.

Associated with a Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship is a nominal workload of 120 hours per term. The Graduate Student Teaching Assistantship can include Teaching Assistant, Marker-Grader, Course Coordinator and/or Lab Demonstrator duties. The Employer may assign Graduate Student Teaching Assistantships to full-time students enrolled in a master's degree or doctoral program at Brock University. Graduate students who are not offered a Teaching Assistantship under Article 22.01 (b) may be assigned or apply to individual appointments under Article 22.01 (c), (d), (e) and/or (f).

The GPD arranges TAships in the student's fall and winter terms. Beyond the first fall and winter terms, students are required to apply for TAships. Positions are listed at various times of the year on the HR webpage: http://www.brocku.ca/hr/careers/positions.php?id=cupe.
All applicants must fill out the CUPE application form and submit it along with a complete application package to the Department Chair. The CUPE form can be found on the job postings page. PhD /MA students are given preference in hiring according to the collective agreement: https://brocku.ca/human-resources/wp-content/uploads/sites/81/Unit-1-1.pdf

Before the beginning of the fall term, the Chair of the Department where the TAship is held and the Instructor shall inform GTAs of their assignments and the nominal hours of work expected over the term. The nominal hours of work are estimates of the time, including preparation, which would normally be required by a graduate student to carry out the assigned duties. It is the Instructor and Chair's responsibility to ensure that adequate preparation time is allowed; it is the graduate student's responsibility to be prepared. It is the Instructor's duty to meet with her/his TAs at the beginning of the term for advance discussion of the work expected, the methods to be used in evaluating the TA's work, and the scheduling of duties throughout the term. TA duties extend from the

date that lectures begin until the due date for course marks and may be distributed unevenly over the term. However, the maximum number of hours of work required in any one week should not normally exceed 20 hours per week. Anticipated excessive fluctuations shall be clearly identified at the time of course assignment. Graduate student employees shall identify to the employer any known academic obligations that may interfere with their duties. If unreasonable demands interfere with a student's own academic program, he/she should speak with the GPD. Except in emergencies, GTAs should receive at least one week's notice of special duties such as proctoring or lecturing.

2.3   Language Requirement

Applicants must have a reading knowledge of at least one language other than English. Transcripts indicating successful completion of at least one first-year language course at the university level will suffice. In the absence of a transcript credit, students will be required to pass a reading skills test in a language other than English as part of the admissions process. Those intending to pursue a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature are strongly encouraged to maintain, or further develop, second language proficiency in preparation for language requirement exams associated with Comparative Literature Programs at the doctoral level.

2.4   Student Input/Evaluation

Students should express any concerns first to the Graduate Program Director. Failing a successful resolution of the matter, students should then take their concerns to the Dean of Humanities before approaching the Dean of Graduate Studies. See the appeal procedures below. All new graduate students in SCLA will be invited to a general orientation session held each year before the program begins. All students will have an opportunity to evaluate their courses at the end of each semester.

Summary of Process

      The student has the right to appeal any academic decision. When a student appeals a grade, the student must first discuss the matter with the course instructor and then the GPD. If the matter is not resolved to the student's satisfaction at this level, the student can then appeal to the Dean of Humanities and the Dean of Graduate Studies. If still not satisfied, the student can appeal to the Senate Student Appeals Board, whose decisions are final. Note that appeals decisions will normally be made within 10 days of receipt of the appeal. See the above-listed regulations for details.

The Process

Appealing a Grade

The student will first discuss the grade with course instructor. If the student is dissatisfied with the result of this discussion, the student may appeal the grade to the program GPD.

The student will submit to the GPD a written appeal outlining the nature and grounds of the appeal, along with all supporting documentation, including the assignment, the course syllabus, the assignment description, and instructor commentary on the assignment.

The instructor will be invited to provide a written explanation of the assigned grade as a supplement to the commentary initially made on the assignment.

The GPD will find a qualified neutral third party to adjudicate the appeal. The third party will assess the assignment and assign it a grade based on the assignment description and

in accordance with the grade descriptions found in Section X of the Graduate Calendar. The third party will provide a written explanation of her or his decision.

The GPD will notify the student and the instructor of the third party's decision, in light of which the instructor will reassess the student's grade (ranging from acceptance of the third party's grade to maintaining the appealed grade unaltered). If the student is unsatisfied with the third party decision or the instructor's subsequent grade reassessment, she or he can appeal it to the Dean of Humanities and the Dean of Graduate Studies. If the student decides to continue the appeal, the GPD will ensure that the student is fully informed of the steps required to do so and make all the relevant documentation available to the student.

The GPD will do her or his best to ensure that the appeal process outlined above reaches a decision within ten business days of receiving the formal appeal from the student. If this is not possible, the student will be informed of the expected timeframe for reaching the decision.

3. **Graduate Supervision and Supervisory Committees**

The Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts graduate program will ensure that a graduate advisor/Supervisor and Supervisory Committee are designated for each graduate student completing a required Major Research Paper or Thesis. The graduate Supervisor in consultation with the graduate student will propose the Supervisory Committee composition. The committee composition must be approved by the Graduate Program

Director.

A *Thesis* Supervisory committee must at minimum comprise three members, the graduate Supervisor (from the Studies in Comparative Literature and Arts participating faculty) and two additional faculty members. At least one of the latter two must be a full-time Brock University faculty. A *Major Research Paper* Supervisory Committee must at minimum comprise the graduate Supervisor and a Second Reader (usually a faculty member previously approved by the Graduate Program Director in consultation with the student and Supervisor).

If a student's graduate Supervisor leaves Brock University during the student's program, the Graduate Program Director has the responsibility to ensure that the student can exercise one of the following options:

    i)   Remain at Brock and change Supervisor and perhaps Major Research Paper or Thesis topic.

    ii)   Remain at Brock and complete the existing Major Research Paper or Thesis even though the appropriate expertise may not be available at Brock for supervision. In this case, the Supervisory Committee may seek advice from experts off campus, or may arrange for the student to work off campus. It will be the responsibility of the Supervisory Committee (augmented, if necessary, by outside expertise), to advise the student on all matters regarding the Major Research Paper or Thesis preparation. The student is not precluded from seeking advice from the former Brock faculty member, but the former Brock faculty member has no privileged position with respect to the Major Research Paper or Thesis. The Supervisory Committee will take precedence in all cases.

    iii)   Apply to transfer to the university to which the student's former Supervisor has moved.

    iv)   Any special arrangements described in ii) or iii) above must be approved by the Faculty Dean and the Dean of Graduate Studies. Reasons for change must be so serious that a continuation of the relationship would be next to impossible. All requests for change must be in writing and forwarded to each party involved (Supervisor and student) and also to the Graduate Program Director of the Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts M.A. program; a final decision will be rendered by the Graduate Program Director after consultation with the Supervisor, student and the Dean of Graduate Studies or designate. As such, both students and faculty

            should be reminded that such a change, if granted, could entail an addition of considerable time for completion of the Major Research Paper or Thesis (which may require payment of one or more re-registration fees).

3.1   Student Responsibilities

All M.A. students are urged to read carefully the sections of the graduate calendar that explain university regulations governing M.A. studies at Brock University, as well as Brock University's policies on Research and Academic Misconduct. Graduate students are held to a higher standard than undergraduates in these matters. The Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts faculty are bound by all university- wide academic regulations adopted by the Brock University Senate. All graduate students must read these sections of the Faculty Handbook and adhere to the policies laid out in the Graduate Calendar.

While the Graduate Program Director is there to assist students and answer their questions, it is the responsibility of the students, not the graduate program, to ensure that their courses of study meet all university requirements for the degree sought. The purpose of this handbook is to clarify university policy regarding certain matters that fall under the Faculty of Graduate Studies jurisdiction and are of concern to our graduate students.

3.1.1   Full-time Studies and Approval for Extra On-Campus Employment

Full-time study implies that a maximum total of ten hours per week be devoted to part- time employment; this limitation is a university rule enforced by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. [Occasionally extra hours of work are permitted for students in very good academic standing. However, those seeking approval for more than ten hours per week of on-campus work must submit the appropriate form to the Dean of Graduate Studies for approval: Request for Approval of Extra On-Campus Employment Hours. However, the graduate program strongly recommends that so far as possible students should not undertake any additional part-time work over and above their standard TA duties while attempting to complete their Major Research Paper or Thesis. Students should be aware that interference from part-time employment might occasion deficiencies with respect to the timing, volume or quality of work. It is important to make every effort to avoid such conflicts. Success depends on giving top priority to completion of the Major Research Paper or Thesis.

3.1.2   Permission for Full-time Study Off Campus

To increase the likelihood that students remain on schedule, students are expected to reside in St. Catharines or the immediate area throughout the writing and research process during the period from April to August inclusive. Note that permission for off-campus study for longer than four weeks in any given term must be sought through the completion of the appropriate form: Application for Full-Time Study Off Campus. Students must be geographically available and able to visit the campus regularly. Without

forfeiting full-time status, a graduate student, while under supervision, may be absent from the university (e.g. visiting libraries, doing field work, attending a graduate course at another institution, etc.) provided that, if any such absence exceeds four weeks in any one term, written approval of the student's absence by the Graduate Program Director is forwarded to the Faculty of Graduate Studies

and approved by the Dean of Graduate Studies (or designate); see http://www.brocku.ca/gradstudies/forms.

3.1.3 Communication with Supervisor

Students will enter into regular contact with their supervisors beginning no later than the last week of April after their courses end, and from that point they are expected to follow a reasonably firm time-line for the main steps towards completion of the Major Research Paper or Thesis. Scheduling lapses will probably jeopardize the goal of finishing the writing, submission, grading and proofreading process by the end of August. Thus, the Supervisor will work with the student to establish a practical time-line reflecting both the particularities of each individual student's Major Research Paper or Thesis, and the schedule of that professor's other activities (for instance, conferences, research, travel, and annual vacation). This time-line will also take into account the schedule of the proposed committee members. Additionally, for the agenda to function smoothly, students must appreciate such logistical concerns as the turn-around time required for comment and advice on the work that is submitted. Students can contribute to overall efficiency by promptly submitting whatever documentation their supervisors require for the most effective monitoring of their progress: this may entail email attachments, hard copies or disk copies of written work, hard copies of research materials, or whatever the Supervisor judges to be necessary.

Students who do not complete their Major Research Paper or Thesis by the end of August may submit their work beyond that time; *however, they will be required to pay a re- registration fee for the next term.* That fee allows extension of the submission date. It is, overall, very desirable to complete the work on time. Moreover, while it is theoretically possible to use such an extension to finish a Major Research Paper or Thesis at a distance (for example, from one's home city), doing so is likely to be fraught with difficulties, and will not obviate the requirement to pay the re-registration fee.

3. 2. Supervisor Responsibilities

Supervisors will provide students with discussion and guidance on their evolving Major Research Paper or Thesis, including advice on such matters as starting-points for research, narrowing of the topic, refinement of the Thesis, and steps to be taken in the writing process. Supervisors and committee members will provide feedback both on the quality of their students' work and progress towards completion. When the supervisory committee is satisfied that a Major Research Paper or Thesis is ready for second reading, he or she will arrange with the Graduate Program Director for that to take place within a reasonable time. However, Supervisors will quite possibly not be able to facilitate prompt second reading of a Major Research Paper or Thesis if the final draft is submitted late.

The Supervisor, in consultation with the individual student, will establish the basic schedule for work on each Major Research Paper or Thesis. After that, Supervisors will rely on students to follow the agreed upon time-line (or to negotiate changes if justified, within the limits of the Supervisor's ability to accommodate them), to prepare appropriately for scheduled meetings, and to request additional meetings as necessary on

their own initiative. Because various commitments may take Supervisors away from Brock for periods of time during the spring-summer period, they will arrange a time-line for meetings and for submission of work that takes account of such absences.

It is recognized that when faculty members agree to supervise a graduate student, they thereby assume a number of responsibilities. Major Research Paper and Thesis Supervisors are expected to be actively engaged in scholarly activity and linked to a wider scholarly network. The student has the right to expect from the Supervisor scholarly expertise, accessibility and assistance with the design, planning and conduct of feasible research projects. The following non-exhaustive list details specific responsibilities:

    i. Be reasonably accessible to the student for consultation and discussion of academic progress and research problems and give timely response to written work with constructive suggestions for improvement.

    ii. Offer supervision and advice appropriate to the stage of the student's work (proposal stage, research stage, analysis and writing stage, oral defense stage if necessary and if appropriate, with the publication of results).

    iii. Help the student establish and maintain a suitable timetable for completion of the various stages of the Major Research Paper/Thesis requirements (i.e., selection of Supervisory Committee, approval of Major Research Paper/Thesis Proposal*, preparation for defense if required, etc.).

    iv. Review the student's progress in preparation for the mid-December, mid-April and mid-August progress reports, which may take the form of a brief email to the Graduate Program Director assessing the student's progress through the program.

    v. Conform to basic principles of academic integrity and professionalism in the supervisory role.

    vi. Make a suitable alternative arrangement for supervision when on extensive leave or absence from the university.

    vii. The Supervisor, as an active member of a research community within Brock University and beyond, necessarily serves as a role model for students, and must be prepared to devote the time required to share his or her knowledge and skills with students and other colleagues. In order to ensure this, the Supervisor must undertake to be available as a resource person for students interested in his or her areas of expertise, and endeavor to attend academic and social activities organized by the program.

    viii. Ensure the student is aware of University and Faculty requirements and standards for the graduate program as available in this document and in the Graduate Studies Calendar. Ensure that regulations on Intellectual

Property are followed before a student is permitted to begin working in any research capacity associated with the University. See web pages:
http://www.brocku.ca/researchservices/forms/,
http://www.brocku.ca/researchservices/knowledge-transfer/.

* The Supervisor should be aware that full-time students *receive a significant reduction in fees* if both the Supervisor and Graduate Program Director agree that the Major Research Paper or Thesis requires no further research, or additional chapters/sections and therefore qualifies for Final Stage status.

In general, the Supervisor's goal is to create a work environment in which students can function as mature, independent academic researchers and writers with access to guidance. Students can rely on their Supervisors for expert advice and encouragement; Supervisors, in turn, will expect their students to take responsibility for the day-to-day progress of their own work.

3.2.1   Supervisory Committee Member Responsibilities

Supervisory Committee Members are expected to follow the *guidelines laid down for the primary Supervisor* with the exception that they do not have primary responsibility for the student (see above). It will be the responsibility of the Supervisory Committee Members to:

i. Offer advice appropriate to the stage of the student's work.
ii. For students proposing to undertake the Thesis option the Supervisory Committee member would meet with the Supervisor and student at least once to attend a formal proposal presentation by the student and, if satisfied, to sign the Proposal Approval Form indicating that they have approved the proposal and that the student can proceed.
iii. Committee members should use the Thesis proposal defense to suggest improvements and to record their ideas about the work before it is undertaken. The formal research is not to proceed until the Proposal Approval Form is signed.
iv. Approve the final draft of the Thesis and participate as a member of the Examining Committee (see below).

3.3 Graduate Research Proposals

Graduate students completing a Major Research Paper or Thesis must submit and have approved by their Supervisory Committee a proposal of research in accordance with the Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts graduate program's procedures (see below).

3.4 Graduate Documents: Major Research Paper and Theses

Master's Thesis and Major Research Paper documents must adhere to the minimum format requirements outlined on the Faculty of Graduate Studies website. Specific regulations regarding Thesis format standards for the Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts graduate program are outlined in this program's procedures (see below). All Thesis documents must be submitted and deposited according to the regulations specified in FHB 14.7.5. All Major Research Paper documents must be preserved and deposited for public display in the Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts Graduate Program Director's office.

4.   MAJOR RESEARCH PAPER

**4.1   Requirements for Students Completing a Major Research Paper
          (SCLA 5F91)**

The course work requirement for the Major Research Paper option is six half-courses, consisting of the three core half-courses (SCLA 5P01, 5P02, and 5P03) and three half-course electives selected from SCLA 5P60-5V99. In addition to the courses, each student must complete a major research paper (SCLA 5F91) of 40-50 pages. Full-time students normally complete the program in three terms.

4.2   Guidelines for Preparation of the Major Research Paper

The purpose of the Major Research Paper is to allow students to treat a subject with greater breadth and depth than would be possible in a single course. Completing the paper assumes superior academic skill and self-discipline.

The calendar description for the Major Research Paper reads as follows:

> SCLA 5F91
> **Major Research Paper**
> A research project on a subject determined in consultation with the Graduate Program Director and faculty Supervisor. The project should give evidence of original thought as well as command of primary and secondary sources. It is expected that the project will be comparative in scope, and therefore engage with both literary texts and works from at least one of the other arts.

4.2.1 Proposal

By the mid- March, the student will be expected to have identified a topic and to have communicated this area of research to the Graduate Program Director along with any suggestions regarding a potential Supervisor and Second Reader. This process should

include providing a proposal of about 500 words that defines the topic, determines the scope and approach taken and demonstrates the way in which both literature and one of the other arts will be studied comparatively. A list of references should accompany the proposal, which must be approved by both the Supervisor and Second Reader by the end of March.

The process of defining a topic and identifying a Supervisory Committee may take some time and should begin well before the end of March. Defining a workable topic and finding a supervisor is a matter of mutual negotiation. It should be noted that faculty members are under no obligation to supervise any particular topic.

4.2.2 Length and Formatting

The Major Research Paper should be approximately 40-50 pages and must be written in accordance with the MLA style sheet; printed on letter-size paper; double- spaced for the body and triple spaced for headings/subheadings; Times New Roman font size 12; 1 inch margins all round.

4.2.3 Revision and Submission

An inadequate paper must be revised and re-submitted for evaluation, although only a limited number of drafts will be accepted for revision. Full-time students intending to receive their Masters degree in the Fall convocation are expected to have submitted a readable draft of the Major Research Paper by August 1st. In such a case, the Director and Supervisor complete a First Draft Form which is submitted
to the Office of Graduate Studies. This form allows for the revision of the draft without requiring that the student pay full tuition fees for the Fall term. Final grades must be submitted by the first week of September for Fall convocation. A copy of the final version of the Major Research Paper will be kept in the Department of Modern Languages, Literatures and Cultures.

4.2.4 Role of the Supervisor

The Supervisor will guide the student through the process of producing an acceptable draft of the Major Research Paper. The Supervisor is expected to provide feedback to the student within three weeks of receiving the draft document. When she or he is satisfied that the paper is in its more or less final form, the Supervisor will ask the student to provide a copy to the Second Reader. (see also 3.2)

4.2.5 Role of the Second Reader

While the Second Reader may make suggestions for improvement, her or his primary role is to consult with the Supervisor in order to arrive at an appropriate grade for the paper.

4.2.6 Assignment of Final Grade

If there is agreement on the grade to be assigned, the Supervisor communicates the

grade to the Graduate Program Director. If there is disagreement, it is the responsibility of the Director to determine the grade to be assigned, taking into consideration the rationale provided by both readers.

The Supervisor and Second Reader will have the following options open to them:

A+ - 90 to 100
A - 80 to 89
B - 70 to 79
C - 60 to 69
F - 59 or lower

If major revisions are necessary, the Supervisor and Second Reader will specify the areas for revision and the date by which the revised, typed MRP is to be completed. This date will normally be within one month of this decision. The Supervisor and Second Reader may also determine whether the revisions require acceptance by the Supervisor or by both the Supervisor and Second Reader. Students should typically be given one to two weeks to complete minor revisions which are to be approved by the student's Supervisor, and two to four weeks to complete major revisions which are to be approved by the Supervisor (and Second Reader as is deemed necessary).

In the instance of a failed MRP (see above C.4-5), the student may, at the discretion of the Supervisor and Second Reader, be permitted a second and final MRP submission. This will be submitted no later than one-month year after the original submission. In the preparation of the MRP for re-submission, the student will be guided by the written criticisms of the Supervisor and Second Reader. Under normal circumstances the Supervisor and the Second Reader of the second MRP submission will be identical to that of the original two faculty members. If a failing grade is again awarded for a MRP after re-examination, the student will be withdrawn from the program.

4.2.7 Extension of Times to Completion

This policy applies to both Major Research Papers and Theses. The Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts graduate program is designed as a three-term (12 months) degree. Students can continue to work beyond the three terms without seeking an extension from the Faculty of Graduate Studies. This decision is made by the M.A. Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts Program Committee as to whether or not to allow the continued course enrolments and supervision for another term or two of a student who is not yet finished. However this is subject to the University's regulations for time to completion (see above section 2).

In exceptional circumstances, an extension of time permitting further registration may be granted. The Faculty of Graduate Studies must receive extension requests, detailing the exceptional circumstances, within the first month of the term in which the completion date expires, only then can they be considered for approval by the Dean of Graduate Studies. An extension will only be considered for approval after completing the following procedure:

1) The student fills in a Request for Extension of Degree Time Limits Form, and submits it to his/her Supervisor (or the Graduate Program Director if s/he does not have a Supervisor) at least one month prior to the expiry of the degree time limit, outlining
    (i) the reason(s) for the delay in completing the degree requirements;
    (ii) the current status of his/her program;
    (iii) what remains to be completed; and
    (iv) much additional time s/he requires to complete the program.

The extension depends on individual circumstances and is typically limited to one additional term. The student will outline planned progress giving specific dates of expected completion, and ensure his/her availability to work full time throughout the requested extension period.

2) The Supervisor (or Graduate Program Director) will complete the designated section of the above-mentioned form, specifying
    (i) the present state of the student's work and what remains to be done;
    (ii) the amount of additional time required for the student to complete;
    (iii) what extra monitoring of progress will be implemented; and
    (iv) whether approval of the student's request is recommended, and if yes, for how many terms, but if not, why not.

3) The Graduate Program Director will review the request for extension, make a recommendation whether to approve the request, and submit the case to the Faculty of Graduate Studies; the Dean of Graduate Studies will decide whether to approve the request for extension.

4) The Faculty of Graduate Studies will inform the student of the Dean's decision.

5) Upon notification of approval by the Dean of Graduate Studies, students will pay the re-registration fee to maintain active student status.

If by the end of the extension period the student still cannot complete the M.A. Program's exit requirements, the student will be either withdrawn from the program or not allowed to register in further courses.

5 M.A. THESIS

5.1 Requirements for Students Completing a Thesis (SCLA 5F90)

The course work requirement for the M.A. Thesis option is five half-courses, consisting of the three core half-courses (SCLA 5P01, 5P02, and 5P03) and two elective courses (selected from SCLA 5P60-5V99). Full-time students take the three core courses in the Fall term, the electives in the Winter term. In addition to the courses, each student must complete and defend at a public oral examination a thesis (SCLA 5F90) of 75-100 pages. Full-time students normally complete the program in four terms.

5.2   Thesis Entry Route

General qualifications for writing a Thesis are the following: proven ability— through course work and other academic achievement—to undertake a major research project; and sufficient time to complete a Thesis (which can only be determined in conjunction with the student's Thesis Supervisor). The Graduate Program Director will consult with the Supervisor to ensure their continued availability to supervise for the duration of the degree.

   A student who applies for the Thesis route must, on application, present a *statement of research interests* as part of the admission documents that will be reviewed by the proposed Supervisor and Graduate Program Director. If the research statement is acceptable (please note: Thesis-route admission will be immediately denied if no Thesis Supervisor is available or willing), the student may register for two courses in his/her first term of study, but is not allowed to register formally for the Thesis guidance course (SCLA 5F90) until the student's *Thesis Supervisory Committee* gives permission (see below). The permission to register for SCLA 5F90 can only be given after the completion of the student's first term (D2) of enrolment, and the preparation of an acceptable *Thesis proposal*. The student will then complete his/her course work in the second term (D3) while beginning to lay further foundations for the Thesis. However, if the results of the Thesis proposal defense (by December in term D2 of the first year of study) indicate that the student is unlikely to be successful, he or she will be re-assigned to the Major Research Paper route, which is an equally rigorous program of study (see above). In addition, if a student at any point along the Thesis route encounters insurmountable difficulties, he/she can opt to change to the Major Research Paper route, with the attendant extra costs and time and the realization that he/she has entered into this change of his/her own accord.

5.3   Steps for Successful Completion of the Thesis

The process of writing a Thesis involves the undertaking of the following steps:

A. *Thesis Proposal*: A Thesis proposal must be approved by the end of the first term (D2) of course work (December). Students, with the advice and direction of their Supervisor and Thesis committee, will need to write a Thesis proposal that meets academic standards within the discipline of Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts. The Thesis proposal must include the following:
   a.   rationale for the proposed research;
   b.   initial research questions and/or hypothesis;
   c.   a preliminary review of related research;
   d.   a description of the research methodology;
   e.   a bibliography of research consulted to this point;
   f.   a time line indicating steps toward completion of the project;

B. *Approval of Thesis Proposal*: The Thesis Supervisor and the student will establish a Supervisory Committee: this committee is composed of the Supervisor (a

faculty member from the participating faculty in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts) and two other faculty members who shall serve as readers for the Thesis. The Thesis Supervisor will provide the student with discussion and guidance throughout the Thesis process, and will have the same responsibilities as outlined for the Major Research Paper (see above). The Supervisory Committee will meet with the student and discuss the Thesis proposal, and if all agree, sign the Proposal Approval Form that will be forwarded to the Graduate Program Director. In the event that the majority of the committee is not in agreement that the Thesis proposal is adequate, the Supervisor may request additional meetings until the proposal has been approved or may request to have the student re- assigned to the Major Research Paper route.

5.4 The Supervisory Committee

In consultation with the graduate student, the Graduate Program Director will appoint a Supervisory Committee consisting of a Supervisor and two other faculty members.

The student will submit to her or his Supervisory Committee a Thesis proposal for approval by the end of the first term following entry to the M.A. Program (see 5.3). The proposal will identify the principal argument to be pursued in the Thesis, the methods of investigation, an outline of chapters, and a working bibliography. Should a Supervisor leave the University or go on sabbatical leave, the Director will be responsible for:

    i) appointing a substitute from the permanent faculty associated with the program, having first consulted with the student and with the other members of the Supervisory Committee.

    ii) if circumstances warrant, appointing to the Supervisory Committee a qualified faculty member from another university.

Students wishing to graduate in the fourth term of their program (October) must deliver the final version of the Thesis by mid- July, so that the external examiner may have four to six weeks to evaluate the work. The defense would be scheduled for a date no later than the last week of August.

5.5 Degree Exit Requirements

In addition to course requirements, each student must complete, and defend at a public oral examination, a Thesis that demonstrates capacity for independent work and original research or thought (see XIII of the Graduate Calendar on Academic Regulations and University Policies for information on proper formatting of the document).

5.6 Thesis Examination Policies

The M.A. Thesis will enable students to pursue in some depth a particular line of inquiry in the study of Comparative Literatures and Arts. The Thesis will normally combine an overview of a given topic along with the critical and theoretical debates pertinent to it, as well as provide original insight and methodological rigour. Additional information is also available on the FGS website: https://brocku.ca/graduate-studies/current-students/thesis-

procedures/thesis-defences-and-document-s-2

       i) The Examining Committee will be composed of the Supervisory Committee, the Associate Dean of Humanities, an external examiner and the Graduate Program Director.

       ii) The external examiner will be appointed by the Dean of Humanities from a list of names supplied by the Supervisory Committee, based on the research profile pertinent to the Thesis. While the external examiner need not be a faculty member, professional and scholarly competence in the field of the Thesis is required. The Dean of Humanities will contact the external examiner and will request a written evaluation prior to the defence. The external examiner is normally expected to be present at the defence.

       iii) The Thesis must be approved by the Supervisory Committee before being forwarded to the external examiner.

       iv) The external examiner shall, as part of her or his report, determine whether the Thesis is ready for defence and whether the Thesis is to be recommended for submission to internal/external Thesis award competitions.

       v) A Thesis defence will typically occur four to six weeks following the external examiner's receipt of the Thesis document. External examiners shall submit their report no later than one week prior to the defence.

       vi) If the external examiner reports that the Thesis is not ready for defence, the student must revise the Thesis within a reasonable period of time in response to the examiner's comments and the Thesis will then be resubmitted to the external examiner. A decision by the external examiner that the Thesis is not ready for defence is binding.

       vii) The external examiner's report will be shared with the Examining Committee and the student prior to the defence.

       viii) Prior to the defence, six copies of the final version of the Thesis must be submitted to the Graduate Program Director. The student is expected to bring an additional copy of the Thesis to the defence. All typing and other costs of preparing the Thesis are the responsibility of the student.

       ix) In general, the format for the Thesis defence is as follows: The candidate will make a twenty-minute public presentation outlining the study. This will be followed by a period of questions from the external examiner, the Supervisor, and the second and third readers. The candidate will then be asked to leave the room, during which time, the Examining Committee will evaluate the Thesis and defence. The Committee will specify any areas for revision and the date by which the Thesis is to be returned to the Graduate Program Director.

x) The Thesis and defence shall receive either a pass or fail grade.
The Examining Committee will have the following options open to them:

  Accepted: Thesis and Defence Satisfactory

  Accepted with Modifications: Defence Satisfactory. Thesis Requires Minor Modifications (in which case the Thesis Supervisor single- handedly usually approves these minor revisions).

  Accepted Conditionally: Defence Satisfactory, but Thesis Requires Major Modifications.

  Decision Deferred: Defence Not Acceptable. Thesis Requires Major Changes.

  Rejected: Defence and Thesis Unacceptable

If major revisions are necessary (option 3), the Examination Committee will specify the areas for revision and the date by which the revised, typed Thesis is to be completed. This date will normally be within three months of the examination or within six months if additional research is required. The Examining Committee may also determine whether the revisions require acceptance by the Supervisor or by both the Supervisor and the External Examiner. Students should typically be given two to four weeks to complete minor revisions which are to be approved by the student's Supervisor, and four to twelve weeks to complete major revisions which are to be approved by the Supervisor (and any of the other members of the Examining Committee as is deemed necessary).

xi) In the instance of a failed defence, the candidate may, at the discretion of the Examining Committee, be permitted a second and final Thesis submission and defence. This will be scheduled for no later than one calendar year after the original presentation and defence. In the preparation of the Thesis for resubmission, the candidate will be guided by the written criticisms of members of the Examining Committee. Under normal circumstances, the composition of the Examining Committee of the second Thesis defence will be identical to that of the original Examining Committee.

5.7   Grading System

Neither the defence nor the Thesis receives a numerical grade. The Thesis defence is either satisfactory or unsatisfactory. The options open to the Committee for grading the Thesis are Pass or Fail. The criteria for these grades are also specified in the *Faculty Handbook*:

  i) *Pass* grade will be awarded in all circumstances (see above F.1-3), except those described below in ii).

  ii) *Fail* grade will be awarded if more than one-third of the Committee finds the Thesis unacceptable or if the External Examiner does not approve the Thesis (see above F.4-5). If the re-examination of the Thesis ends with the same

evaluation, the graduate student will be withdrawn from the program.

Appeals relating to the procedures followed in a Thesis Examination, or to the grade assigned, shall be considered by the Senate Committee on Graduate Studies.

5.8   Thesis Submission

A candidate submitting a thesis in partial fulfillment of the requirements governing the award of advanced degrees must deposit the approved thesis with the Brock University Digital Repository before the degree will be conferred.

When the thesis is in its final form (following defence), has been approved by the graduate program, and meets FGS Thesis Format Specifications, the student will submit the thesis to the Brock University Digital Repository. The student must also submit to the Faculty of Graduate Studies the Certificate of Approval, the Library and Archives Canada (LAC) Non-Exclusive License to Reproduce Theses, and the Brock University Thesis and Major Research Paper Copyright Licence.

Under certain circumstances, (e.g. to protect confidential commercial information, patentable material, pending application, or where immediate commercial publication is anticipated), a graduate student may request a restriction on the circulation of the thesis for up to a period of twelve months. For complete instructions see FGS website: https://brocku.ca/graduate-studies/current-students/thesis/e-thesis-submission.

6.   LENGTH OF PROGRAM

6.1   Full-Time Study

For full-time students choosing to write a Major Research Paper, financial support is awarded for one calendar year (three terms) of full-time study. Students complete their course work in the Fall and Winter semesters of the first year, and complete their Major Research Paper in the Spring/Summer term. Although some students may require a fourth term to complete their Major Research Paper, financial support will not be provided for the extra time needed to complete their exit requirement. Students must, however, register for SCLA 5F91 in Spring/Summer of their first year, and every subsequent semester, until the Major Research Paper has been awarded a final mark. Full-time students must complete all degree requirements no later than three years after the date of first registration.

For full-time students choosing to write a Thesis, financial support is provided for four terms of study. Students complete their course work in the Fall and Winter semesters of the first year and complete their Thesis by the end of the Fall term of the second year. Although some students may require a subsequent term to complete their Thesis, financial support will not be provided for the extra time needed to complete the exit requirement. Students must, however, register for SCLA 5F90 in Spring/Summer of their first year, and in every subsequent semester, until the Thesis has been successfully defended. Full-time students must complete all degree requirements no later than three years after the date of first registration.

6.2.1 Part-Time Study

The M.A. Program in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts offers a part- time option for those students who meet the normal admission standards, but whose work and/or family responsibilities prevent them from studying full time. Graduate funding is not normally available to students enrolled on a part-time basis.

Part-time students completing a Major Research Paper are expected to complete six half- credit courses, (including SCLA core courses 5P01, 5P02, and 5P03) within the first three years of study and to submit the Major Research Paper within four years of entering the program.

Part-time students completing an M.A. Thesis are expected to complete four half-credit courses, (including SCLA 5P01, and 5P02 or 5P03) within the first two years of study and to submit the M.A. Thesis within four years of entering the program.

6.3 Program Structure for Full-Time Students

Major Research Paper Option:

Year 1	Fall term:	SCLA 5P01, SCLA 5P02, SCLA 5P03
	Winter term:	Two elective courses from SCLA (5P60 – 5V99) and one elective course from a graduate level course in another graduate program.
	Spring/Summer term:	SCLA 5F91 Major Research Paper

M.A. Thesis Option:

Year 1:	Fall term:	SCLA 5P01, SCLA 5P02, 5P03
	Winter term:	Two of SCLA (5P60 – 5V99)
	Spring/Summer term:	SCLA 5F90 Thesis
Year 2:	Fall term:	SCLA 5F90 Thesis

6.4 Program Structure for Part-Time Students

Major Research Paper Option:

| **Year 1**: | Fall term: | SCLA 5P01 |

	Winter term:	One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)
Year 2:	Fall term:	SCLA 5P02
	Winter term:	One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)
Year 3:	Fall term:	SCLA 5P03
	Winter term:	One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)
	Spring/Summer term:	SCLA 5F91 Major Research Paper

M.A. Thesis Option:

Year 1:	Fall term:	SCLA 5P01
	Winter term:	One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)
Year 2:	Fall term:	One of SCLA 5P02, 5P03
	Winter term:	One of SCLA (5P60-5V99)
Year 3:	Fall term:	SCLA 5P90 M.A. Thesis
	Winter term:	SCLA 5P90 M.A. Thesis

7. COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Note: Not all courses are offered in every session. Students must have their course selections approved by the Graduate Program Director each term. Refer to the Timetable for scheduling information: https://brocku.ca/registrar/guides-and-timetable/graduate-students.

SCLA 5F90
MA Thesis
An extended research project which meets the conditions specified in the description for SCLA 5F91. The Thesis involves a more substantial level of research and a fuller treatment of the selected subject. It will be examined by an External Reader and will require a public defence.

SCLA 5F91
Major Research Paper
A research project on a subject determined in consultation with the Graduate Program Director and faculty Supervisor. The paper should give evidence of original thought as well as a command of primary and secondary sources. It is expected that the project will be comparative in scope, and therefore engage with both literary texts and works from at least one of the other arts.

SCLA 5P01
Comparative Critical Theory in Literature and the Arts
Contemporary approaches to texts of various types, discursive and aesthetic traditions, possibilities and problems arising from comparative studies. Theories of translation and adaptation.

SCLA 5P02
Comparative Methodologies
Applications of critical theory to the interdisciplinary study of theatre, visual arts, and music.

SCLA 5P03
Critical Theory and the Arts
An examination of the modes of production, reception and analysis of art from its inception to its cultural, institutional or ideological transformation. Workshop format. Note: field trips may be required.

SCLA 5P60
Crossover Literature
Contemporary fiction read by a dual audience of children and adults. Impact on literarysystems, canons, concepts of readership, and the publishing industry. Role of other media, influence of the marketplace. Novels, short fiction, poetry, picture books, comic books from international sources.

SCLA 5P62
The Birth of the Sentimental Self
(also offered as POLI 5P62)
Exploration of modern notions of selfhood and subjectivity, their impact on moral and political understanding. Topics include reverie, confession, hypocrisy, genius, romanticism.

SCLA 5P63
Crossing Cultural Boundaries in the Novels of Umberto Eco
Eco's narrative fiction. Issues include novels as pastiche and palimpsest, open and

closed works, intertextuality, high and pop culture, role of the reader, interpretation and overinterpretation, literary genres, translation, visual arts in textual settings.

SCLA 5P64
Space and the Social Ecology of Art
How we construct and adapt to our human or natural environment, how we determine the cultural value or social production of space, and how art, environment, and aesthetics interrelate. Topics include urban, suburban and exurban spaces; natural, "naturalized" and simulated environments; site specific, public and installation art.

SCLA 5P65
Violence and Discourses of Otherness in Early Modern Europe
Early modern European literary engagements with discourses of colonial, ethnic, religious and sexual otherness, their cultural functions, and their violent imposition. Selected 16th and early 17th-century English, French and Spanish poetry, prose and drama.
Contemporary theoretical examinations of otherness and violence.

SCLA 5P68
Word Painting and Text Setting in Music from the 12th to the Early 17thCenturies
Methods used to highlight, exalt and illustrate words in music, from Biblical texts set in plainchant to secular poetry set by the 16th-century Italian madrigalists. Ability to read music a strong asset, but not absolutely essential.

SCLA 5P69
Disability in Literature and the Arts: Sites of Resistance
Disability as a site of resistance and creativity in literature and the visual arts. Readings in disability studies. Texts and films from a variety of cultural backgrounds.

SCLA 5P71
Merleau-Ponty: The Art of Perception
(also offered as PHIL 5P71 and HUMA 5P31)
Merleau-Ponty's treatments and analyses of the visual (painting and film) and literary arts, seen as products, explorations and distortions of human perception and embodied subjectivity, which shed light on our cultural and pre-cultural experiences of the world.

SCLA 5P73
Witches, Vampires, and Virgins: The Monstrous Depiction of Women
The socio-historical depiction of women as monstrous in Latin-American, British and American art, literature and film. Marginalized, denied, silenced feminine sexuality versus the construction of an authentic feminine identity.

SCLA 5P74
Performance and Performativity
Notions of performance and performativity from various sources in the fields of anthropology, theatre studies, cultural studies, and philosophy. Modes of artistic and cultural expression in a world that is increasingly performative in nature.

SCLA 5P75
Advanced Studies in Aesthetics

An in-depth examination of a specific aesthetic question explored by artists and thinkers of a specific time period (19th century, contemporary, late or early 20th century). Questions include: the function of art, art as representation, the role of theory in the production of art, the role of art in the development of theory.

SCLA 5P76
Literary Translation: Theory and Experimentation
Definitions and purposes of translation from the past century. Readings by Benjamin, Jakobson, Nabokov, Ortega y Gasset, and Spivak.
Note: Students need not have a background in translation.

SCLA 5P77
Religion and Iconography: The Power of the Image
An examination of religious imagery and iconography from a comparative perspective, employing an array of interdisciplinary methodologies. The power of devotional images and para-liturgical objects, whether depictive, performative, or evocative will be explored.

SCLA 5P79
The Depiction of the Caribbean and African Exotic
Examination of exoticism in French/Francophone literature and the arts. What makes a literary text or a work of art "exotic"? Critical readings in Alterity and Orientalism. Novels, short stories, poetry, paintings, and/or films from French/Francophone sources.

SCLA 5P80
Transgression, Interdiction, and the Limits of Expression
Death, eroticism, and other limit-experiences in 20th century literature and the arts. Works that attempt to speak, write, and depict that which resists or forbids expression.

#SCLA 5P83
Graduate Seminar in Political Theory
(also offered as POLI 5P83)
A comparison of important and opposing contemporary approaches to the interpretation of major texts or issues in political theory.

SCLA 5P90
Directed Reading
Research course with directed study and regular meetings with a faculty member, covering topics not offered in a designated course, and with permission of the Graduate Program Director.

SCLA 5V90-5V99
Special Topics in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts
Special topics and/or themes in Studies in Comparative Literatures and Arts.

SCLA 5V92
2017-2018 Through the Looking Glass: The Past and Future of Virtual Worlds
Reality TV, virtual reality, real talk, @realDonaldTrump; how do we make sense of the relationship between technology and reality? A comparative examination of aesthetic shifts in the early twentieth and twenty-first centuries that emerge from, and respond to, changing modes of political representation. Course materials may include novels, theory, television shows, and videogames.