

Master of Arts Program Student Seminar Research Thesis/Project Presentation Guidelines

Once a semester, MA students gather for a daylong seminar. At these seminars students present their Thesis/Project in which students (a) present their best academic work and their knowledge on a specific topic to peers and faculty, (b) are challenged to defend their work, and (c) dialogue among peers and faculty about their accomplishments. Students may present after the Research Thesis/Project proposal has been approved, while working on their Research Thesis/Project, or at the conclusion of their Research Thesis/Project. Students who are presenting need to do the following:

1. Have a well planned oral presentation of their Research Thesis/Project. To do this the student needs to practice his/her presentation several times before the final presentation (make sure the presentation is within time limits).
2. Meet with other students and faculty ahead of time for input and feedback on how to create an excellent presentation (optional).
3. Present a 45-minute oral presentation on their Research Thesis/Project at a student seminar (This requirement must be met in order to graduate). The 45-minute time frame includes a 10-minute session for questions and answers.
4. Include in the presentation (a) a thesis statement (i.e., purpose of your research thesis/project) (b) a brief overview of the literature reviewed, (c) brief description of the research methodology, (d) the findings (or project), and (e) the conclusions. Remember to briefly provide evidence from your research for your findings and conclusions.
5. Use one or more visual aids such as MS Power Point, handouts, transparencies, short video-clips, etc.

Note:

Presentations receive a pass or fail grade from the Faculty assigned to evaluate the student's presentation at the end of the day. If there are any concerns about the quality of a student's presentation, the student may be asked to present again at a future seminar.