

## **M.A. in Theatre Culminating Guidelines**

\*There are a few acceptable variations on the following options that either your Academic Advisor or Faculty Mentor may be able to propose. Contact Advising with any questions!

### **OPTION A**

#### **1 cr. THE 597 Comprehensive Examination + 2 cr. THE 681 Practicum**

The Comprehensive Examination is given mid-semester in the student's last semester and consists of in-depth essay questions designed to test students' knowledge of all of the courses they have taken in their time at Regent as well as evaluate student's ability to research in their discipline. Questions are sent to the student's Regent email address and students are responsible for following all directions given by the Department of Theatre in this process.

Registration (with approval from the Theatre Department) should be completed no later than 2 weeks prior to the start of classes.

Students should consult with the Program Coordinator concerning their 2-credit practicum. This may be accomplished early via email, or within the COM 691 Prep Class. The Practicum will no longer be required as of January 2022. A 2-credit course on Dramatic Criticism (THE 797) will replace this requirement for students entering the program after that date. Moreover, all current students may also select THE 797 to replace their practicum requirement, if they so desire.

### **OPTION B**

#### **1 cr. THE 597 Comprehensive Examination + 2 cr. THE 797 Drama Criticism (THE 690 prior to Spring 2022)**

The Comprehensive Examination is given mid-semester in the student's last semester and consists of in-depth essay questions designed to test students' knowledge of all of the courses they have taken in their time at Regent as well as evaluate student's ability to research in their discipline. Questions are sent to the student's Regent email address and students are responsible for following all directions given by the Department of Theatre in this process.

THE 797 Culminating Experience: Dramatic Criticism (2) An in-depth examination of dramatic theory and criticism from the ancient Greeks to the twentieth century.

### **OPTION C**

#### **3 cr. THE 599- Master's Thesis**

**This option is only available by petition to students wishing to pursue a Ph.D. program. It requires two semesters of work.** This option is most helpful for students planning to go on to a Ph. D. in Theatre History, Criticism or Dramaturgy. The Thesis is a scholarly work requiring two semesters to complete and is graded by a chaired committee. For approval, students must petition the Theatre Department via the Program Coordinator and should forward approval to [advising@regent.edu](mailto:advising@regent.edu) in order to register. This process should be completed no later than 2 weeks prior to the start of courses.

## **MA Theatre: Thesis Checklist**

- For those approved, via petition, to complete a thesis as a culminating experience, you will need to review the requirements and have a solid concept at least TWO weeks before the start of class.
- Thesis is a two-semester project. You should register for it during the Fall if you plan to graduate in Spring, during the Spring if you plan to graduate in Summer, and during the Summer if you plan to graduate in Fall.

Students will only register for one semester. A grade of IP will automatically be entered at the end of the first term of registration, granting an automatic in progress to allow the student to defend and publish in the second term. If an additional semester is required, the student will register for 1-3 credits every semester until the thesis has been accepted in ProQuest. Students are only permitted to register for 1 credit if the final defense has been successfully passed and an additional semester is required for edits and publishing only.

- Choose between a research-focused thesis and a creative (playwriting or directing) thesis with a research component. When your program chair thinks you're ready to request a committee, write a short summary (one or two paragraphs) explaining the type of capstone project you've chosen and the specific focus of that project.
- The program coordinator will assign a committee chair and committee member to your thesis. (The committee chair will help you create a timeline and will ultimately approve your thesis proposal.) You will then receive notification of the member(s) of your thesis committee and of any necessary edits to your proposal.
- Collaborate with Thesis Chair to set a time for proposal defense before the deadline on SCA's [website](#).
- Defend proposal. **(Send copies of your proposal to your committee chair at least one week prior to defense).**
- Write thesis.
- Submit the completed thesis electronically to your Thesis Committee Chair.
- Engage with committee chair, as required, in adjusting the document.
- Once the chair believes the document ready for committee input, the thesis will be disseminated to the remainder of the committee for additional feedback.
- At this point, ask the thesis committee to set a date for the Oral Defense. The date for the Oral Defense should be sometime after the committee has had ample opportunity to offer feedback yet prior to the School's published deadline. This date should be determined by the Thesis Committee.

- Supply all committee members with an electronic copy, minus appendices, no later than **5 working days** prior to the scheduled Oral Defense. These electronic copies are intended to serve as drafts for the student's committee to comment, edit, and reference at the Oral Defense if deemed necessary. **Note: The committee may ask the student to make additional adjustments based upon the Oral Defense.**
- Upon successfully passing the Oral Defense, the committee chair will confirm the committee's approval with the Dean's Office.
- The student is then responsible for submitting the completed thesis (with any final adjustments required by the committee) to a **University-approved proofreader**. Students are responsible for the cost of this proofreading.
- Make changes/corrections in the manuscript as indicated by the proofreader.
- **Submit to ProQuest** - Follow [Library Submission](#) instructions. (If you would like personal copies, you will be able to order it while you are going through the submission process.)
- You will receive a confirmation email once your project has been approved.
- The approval email from ProQuest will be forwarded to the Registrar's Office and the Dean's Office for record-keeping purposes. The Registrar's Office will update the grade the thesis to a P – signifying all requirements have been met.