

Instructions for Thesis Application

Applicant: Please *legibly* fill out this form.

Thesis Topic: This may be a tentative, working title.

Thesis Committee (check rules on eligibility): List the name and contact information for each of your committee members. You must include a supervisor who must sign the form. It's strongly recommended that you also include a Reader, but you must first be certain that they have agreed to act in this capacity before listing them as 'Agreed'. If you do not yet have an agreed Reader, you may list some suggestions, but you should continue to actively try to find a Reader and immediately notify the UGO. If you cannot find a Reader for yourself, the department will assign one to you.

Signatures: Obtain signatures from Supervisor(s) and Concentration Advisor before submitting.

Submission: Please be sure to submit a complete application on time. If your application is incomplete, we will be unable to review it, and your approval may be significantly delayed.

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

Required Attachments Research Proposal: All applications must include an attached project proposal. Proposals do not have to be final; your project may evolve over time. Proposal should indicate your current plans and be detailed enough to allow the department to evaluate if you have a topic that is appropriate for a thesis and feasible given the time and resources of a thesis. Proposals should be brief (often 2-5 pages) but should clearly state your thesis topic and general method. Proposals should be submitted to Supervisor(s) in advance for feedback and approval.

Student Record: All applications must include an attached unofficial transcript.

SPECIAL PETITIONS

Special Petitions Petition for GPA Exemption: Students with a GPA below 3.5 are generally not eligible to do a thesis. Students who wish to do a thesis but do not meet this requirement must petition for an exemption by attaching a statement explaining why you feel that you are able to do a thesis and your GPA is not an accurate reflection of your ability. In considering your request, we may reach out to your supervisor(s) to discuss your ability to do a thesis and their lab's ability to support any extra needs you may have. We will also pay special attention to your research proposal; students requesting a GPA waiver should produce an exceptional research proposal to demonstrate their ability to complete a thesis.

Petition for Non-Departmental Co-Supervisor. Eligible departmental researchers and all members of the Board of Honors Tutors can act as Co-supervisor without a petition. If you are working with a non-departmental researcher who is not on the Board of Honors Tutors, you can petition to have them serve as a Co-supervisor on your committee. You must attach a statement in which you explain why this person is appropriate to supervise your research. You must note the person's title(s) and affiliation(s) (e.g., Professor of Neurology, Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School), provide contact information, and include a current CV or resume. (Before applying, please review the rules on committee eligibility, and consult the UGO if you have any questions.)

Other petitions for exemptions to thesis rules or prerequisites. If you are requesting any other exemptions to the rules and prerequisites for Psychology theses, please attach a statement explaining the request and the reason.

Harvard University • Dept of Psychology

Thesis Application Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____ House: _____

TOPIC: _____

CONCENTRATION ADVISOR SIGNATURE: _____ Date: _____

THESIS COMMITTEE: Committees usually consists of one supervisor and one reader.

Faculty Supervisor Name: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Office/ mailing address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thesis Co-Supervisor Name (if applicable): _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Office/ mailing address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Agreed Reader Name (if applicable): _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Office/ mailing address: _____

Reader Suggestions (if you do not have an agreed Reader): _____

COLLEGE COURSE RECORD:

Please provide your current College Grade Point Average _____

ATTACHMENTS: (Please check if included)

_____ Project Proposal (*required*)

_____ Printout of current Registrar's student record (*required*)

_____ Nondepartmental Committee Member Petition

_____ Nondepartmental Committee Member CV

_____ Other Petition (specify, e.g., low GPA, advanced methods deferral) _____