

REGULATIONS CONCERNING GRADUATE WORK

Official Bulletin Issued by the Graduate School of Wheaton College

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF THE FOLLOWING REGULATIONS RESTS UPON THE STUDENT

I. INTRODUCTION

Study on the graduate level implies an intellectual maturity on the part of the student which is clearly above that of the undergraduate. Graduate work is no more a mere extension of undergraduate work than college study is an extension of high school. There should be a growth in scholastic aptitude and a clear demonstration of increasing mental maturity. The fact that a student has been granted graduate standing is evidence that the College believes him capable of sound scholarship. The gathering of information must be supplemented by critical analysis, evaluation, and a comprehensive insight into knowledge relationships. The student is expected to demonstrate this scholarly attitude in his work.

II. Scholarship Requirements

- 1) The graduate student should not take things for granted, but should work out definite plans for the year and should have them approved by his department chairman. These should include plans for his thesis or project or courses taken in lieu of these.
- 2) Not all students who are college graduates or who are allowed to carry graduate courses have graduate standing. Graduate standing is granted only to such students as have definitely had their undergraduate work examined and approved, or approved with such exceptions as may have been noted, with the declared intention that they are seeking to complete the work outlined for a graduate degree.
- 3) No student will be admitted to candidacy for a degree until he has completed 16 quarter credit hours of graduate work in residence in which he has maintained a grade-point average of 2.5 or above, and has met all undergraduate deficiencies, and has demonstrated an adequate mastery of the major and supporting fields. In cases of doubt a preliminary examination will be required. No grade-point below 2. will be accepted for graduate credit. Approval of a thesis topic or project does not imply admission to candidacy.
- 4) A minimum of 48 quarter hours of graduate work with a grade-point average of 2.5 is required for the master's degree. Graduate courses, undergraduate courses required as a part of the program (not taken on a "pass-fail" basis), and courses to demonstrate proficiency must in each case average 2.5. A satisfactory level must be maintained in voluntary electives on the undergraduate level, but will not be counted in the previous average. It is understood also that the student must meet all departmental requirements.
- 5) All work for the master's degree should be completed in five years from the time of entrance to the Graduate School, or within two years from the time of completion of residence, whichever comes first. If the work is done in summer sessions only, seven years from the time of entrance, or two years from the time of completion of residence work will be allowed. Under extenuating circumstances, such as an appointment to missionary work, or illness, the Graduate Senate may grant an extension of time. The student is responsible for applying for such an extension.

Every effort should be made to complete all requirements during residence. A registration fee of \$10 per quarter will be assessed for each year after a student completes his residence until he graduates, unless he enrolls for at least one course during that year. The payment will entitle the student to the use of the library upon application.

III. The Thesis or Project

A student who expects to become a candidate for a degree must make plans early in his graduate program either to write 1) a thesis, 2) a project, or 3) take two extra quarter courses (8 quarter hours) beyond the minimum 12 quarter courses (48 quarter hours), one of which should be a seminar/research course (90G) if recommended by the student's adviser. A student writing a thesis must take the thesis seminar. A thesis will be recommended for those with further graduate study in mind, but in consideration of a student's background and goals he may be required to submit a thesis on the basis of consultation with his department chairman. A project will no doubt include research, but the emphasis will be on personal creativity and/or experience rather than information or theory. A student carrying out a project will take the seminar/research course (90) in which he will work with his adviser.

Advisers are always available to the student who wishes to write a thesis or project, but he must himself take responsibility for the selection of a suitable topic, the determination of methods of research which will yield defensible results, the collection of materials, and the actual production of the written documents.

A. Procedure for Development of the Thesis or Project

1. The thesis or project topic should be selected as soon as possible, but courses necessary for the development of the thesis should be completed previously or taken concurrently. The work on the thesis should be equally distributed throughout the final year of residence, with as much time as possible reserved for the logical analysis of the problem, the drawing of conclusions, and the presentation in thesis form. A student writing a thesis or project must present a topic and prospectus to his department chairman, and on his approval, to the Graduate Senate. At this time, the student should also submit to the Senate in writing a list of two or three members of the graduate or undergraduate faculty whom he wishes to serve on his committee.

2. A tentative outline of the thesis topic, together with the assembling of a bibliography covering the subject, will assist the student in seeing the problem as a whole and in limiting it. Some careful study of the problem in the beginning will ordinarily save much time and trouble later. The study should not duplicate work which has already been done by someone else in a Wheaton master's thesis. Department chairmen have lists of topics written in specific fields.

3. The student should choose a topic that has real significance for him--one on which he can work willingly, aggressively, enthusiastically.

4. The principles of Kate L. Turabian's A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations are to be followed. Much time is lost unless the student from the beginning goes about the collection and handling of data in an orderly manner.

5. The student is responsible for keeping in touch with his committee chairman, who supervises the whole process. Everything goes through the chairman before going to the second member or any other source of help.

6. After the research on the thesis topic is completed, the student must show both the chairman of his committee and the second member of the committee a revised outline of the first draft before beginning the actual composition. With the approval of the first and second members of the committee he may then begin to write.

7. Every candidate for the M.A. degree must present the initial draft of his thesis in duplicate to expedite the preliminary reading and to save time in case of loss. This draft should be final in content and form as far as the student is concerned. The first draft of a thesis or project must be handed in during the first week of the quarter during which a student will conclude his academic requirements for graduation.

8. A student must have the approval of the Graduate Senate before publishing his thesis.

B. Directions for Typing of the Thesis

1. The thesis must be typed on a high grade of 8½" x 11" 20 pound 100% rag bond paper purchasable at the College Bookstore. The Library will xerox the second or additional copies for the normal charge per sheet. Pica or elite or any other standard type face is acceptable.

2. The title page of the thesis should contain the following information: title, author, the statement--"submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of (name of degree) at Wheaton College," and the date of the month and year in which the thesis is accepted. See sample attached.

3. Because at times students take views different from those of the faculty and of the school, each student should insert the following in his thesis on a separate sheet following the title page: (see sample attached).

"The views expressed in this thesis are those of the student and do not necessarily express the views of the Wheaton College Graduate School."

4. Greek and/or Hebrew lettering should be inserted with a black ball point pen.

5. Footnotes, references, bibliographies, and the general form of the thesis must conform to regulations in A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations by Kate L. Turabian, published by The University of Chicago Press, 1967 (or later printings).

6. The maximum length of a thesis should be 125 pages, including bibliography and appendices.

C. Presentation of the Thesis

1. The candidate must submit one typed copy and two xeroxed copies of his completed thesis to the Graduate Office not later than the sixth week of the quarter at the end of which he expects to graduate. The typed copy must be free from all errors in punctuation, spelling, mechanics, and grammar. The thesis will be returned unread if the student has become careless in these matters.

2. June graduation will be expected of those attending the regular academic sessions. Thesis committees will be appointed with this in view, and the availability of committee members during the summer will not be guaranteed. Students attending summer sessions only will be assigned committees to function during those sessions.

3. After the thesis is completed the candidate is required to pass an oral examination under the direction of the thesis committee at a date set by the chairman of the committee. Basis for the final grade on a thesis: (1/5 thesis seminar; 1/5 oral defense; 3/5 the thesis itself). Upon the completion of the oral examination and the seminar course, the candidate shall receive four hours credit and grade merited by the quality of the thesis.

4. The original and one copy of the completed, approved, and perfectly typed thesis and a receipt from the Business Office for the binding fee (currently \$3.70 per copy) are to be filed with the Librarian one week before the degree is to be conferred. Before these are submitted they must be carefully proofread for typographical errors. All theses will be inspected by the Librarian when deposited at the Library, and may be refused by the Librarian if they do not conform to the proper standards of form and typography. Liquid paper, Ko-rec-type, taperaser, etc. may not be used.

5. With the final draft of the thesis the student should submit in duplicate an abstract of two or three hundred words stating briefly the problem and the solution of it which the thesis propounds. The abstract may be used for publication in a graduate bulletin.

D. Projects will be handled by the department and will not be referred to the library, although the student may have his project bound for a fee if he wishes. The project must be presented in good form, not necessarily thesis form.

IV. Examination.

All candidates for the master's degree must pass a comprehensive examination including one hour each in Old Testament, New Testament, and Theology, one hour in integration, and four hours in their respective fields. Students majoring in Old Testament or New Testament must pass the language part of the comprehensive.

The written comprehensive examination should be taken during residence. Currently these examinations are being offered during the fall and spring quarters only. They may be taken before the thesis or graduate project is completed, but may in no case be taken more than one year after the completion of all course requirements. Students passing comprehensive examinations shall be excused from certain examinations in current courses covered by the comprehensives, provided they are maintaining a grade of "B" or better.

Thesis on Prophecy:

Survey of scholarly opinion

Saying used to introduce prophecy

Subject matter of prophecy

Character of prophets

Eschatology

Independent - Cultic - professional - relationship w/ cultic centers

Symbolisms

Audiences

How prophet called

O.T. attitude of false prophets & pagan prophets

N.T. references to pagan prophets

How term is used

Interaction of prophets w/ their professy

Compulsion to prophesy!

Personal gain involved

Dedication

Fulfillment of prophesy