Application to Enroll in Senior Thesis - FANR 4600

Due date for fall enrollment: Last day of classes in previous spring semester
Due date for spring enrollment: Midterm day in previous fall semester

Name: ____________________________  Email: ____________________________

Application Date: ________________  Anticipated Graduation Date: ________________

Current cumulative GPA: ____________  Current Warnell GPA: _____________________________

- On a separate page, provide the following information (in brief terms):
  - Explain how Senior Thesis relates to your future plans.
  - List courses you have taken that are relevant to your thesis project.
  - List relevant research or other experiences.

- Attach a 2-3 page research prospectus to your application. The prospectus should include a cover sheet (with tentative title, student’s name and name of faculty advisor), general background/literature, problem statement, research questions, an outlined methodology (including intended samples, sampling procedures, treatments and/or controls, data collection methods, experimental design, and potential statistical analyses), anticipated results/significance of proposed research and a timeline. The prospectus may be written for a general audience, and need not be overly technical in detail.
  (N.B. If you plan to collect data before the application deadline (i.e., Last Day of classes in Spring, or Midterm in Fall), you must submit your application and receive approval before data collection has occurred).

- Applicants that do not have a Warnell GPA of 3.0 or better, should also attach letters of appeal from (1) the applicant and (2) the thesis advisor.

I have reviewed and understand the requirements and process (see page 2) for completion of Senior Thesis.

Thesis applicant: ______________________________  ______________________________
Print name  Applicant’s signature

I have reviewed the requirements and expected process for completion of Senior Thesis with this student, and agree to serve as their thesis advisor. I also have reviewed and approved the research prospectus included with this application.

Thesis advisor: ______________________________  ______________________________
Print name  Thesis advisor’s signature

I have reviewed the requirements and expected process for completion of Senior Thesis (p. 2) and agree to serve on this student’s committee. I also have reviewed and approved the research prospectus included with this application.

Committee member: ______________________________  ______________________________
Print name  Committee member’s signature

Committee member: ______________________________  ______________________________
Print name  Committee member’s signature

Approved by: ______________________________  Gary T. Green, Assistant Dean
Guidelines for Initiating and Completing Senior Thesis (FANR 4600)

1. Academic advisors should discuss Senior Project and Senior Thesis with advisees no later than the student’s second semester.

2. Students interested in Senior Thesis should search for and identify a potential thesis advisor by the end of their second semester.

3. During the third semester, the student should develop a research prospectus and assemble an Advisory Committee composed of the faculty supervisor and two additional faculty members (or surrogates approved by the thesis supervisor). Students are encouraged to include a committee member from outside their specific area of study.

4. Students must submit the standard application for Senior Thesis that includes a 1-2 page prospectus developed with and approved by the faculty advisor. [Advisors may require an additional research proposal independent of your prospectus]. Applications are due to the Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs office no later than the fall semester Midterm Date, if the student will enroll in FANR 4600 in the spring, and no later than the Last Day of classes in the spring semester, if the student will enroll in FANR 4600 in the fall. Thus, the application must be submitted prior to enrolling in Senior Thesis. Students approved for Senior Thesis by the Assistant Dean will be cleared to register.

5. While enrolled in Senior Thesis, students may be required to attend selected Senior Project classes. The thesis advisor, in consultation with the Senior Project instructors, will determine any mandatory classes. It is the responsibility of the student to know the dates of these classes, and it is the responsibility of the thesis advisor to verify that the student has attended the mandatory classes and to determine the penalty for failure to attend. The faculty advisor may substitute attendance at similar professional development programs for attendance in Senior Project classes.

6. Students enrolled in Senior Thesis must submit a defendable draft to their faculty advisor and committee members no later than 2 weeks prior to the date of the oral presentation. Students that do not submit a defendable draft at least 2 weeks prior to their oral presentation will be prohibited from presenting their thesis until the next semester. They will receive an Incomplete for Senior Thesis until the presentation is done.

7. Students must present their thesis orally in conjunction with Senior Project presentations.

8. Senior thesis students are required to attend a minimum number of Senior Thesis/senior project presentations. The number of presentations required will be determined by the Senior Project instructors and will be the same number required of Senior Project students. It is the responsibility of the student to know the number of presentations they are required to attend, the Senior Project instructors will verify attendance, and the thesis advisors are obligated to penalize their students that do not attend the minimum number of presentations. Penalties should be proportionate to the number of presentations missed and consistent with penalties applied in Senior Project.

9. Students should submit a revised final draft of their thesis to their thesis advisor. Advisors are encouraged to meet with students to discuss how they addressed criticisms, and to consider whether and how a student handled revisions in determining the student’s grade.