

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND GEOGRAPHY  
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

**GEOG 4660 HONOURS THESIS REGULATIONS**

The thesis is a required component of the honours degree and is equivalent to one full course of 6 credit hours. This requirement is a major feature distinguishing the honours Geography degree from the other undergraduate degree programs in the Department of Environment and Geography. It is distinct in that it requires the student to undertake a limited but original piece of work in a branch of Geography in which he or she has developed a particular interest. It thus provides an outlet for employing and further developing the skills in geographical analysis, interpretation and presentation that have been acquired in the previous three years of the program. The experience gained in organizing and carrying out a study in greater depth than would be possible in a term paper is of substantial value from both a professional and a general educational point of view. It is most appropriate training for those who intend to continue their studies at the graduate level or for those who may seek employment in a position requiring the ability to conduct research and prepare reports.

Selection and Scope of Thesis Topic

Thesis topics must be kept within manageable proportions and the objectives defined as precisely as possible at the outset. To establish the feasibility of the project consideration must be given to the methodological approach, the type of data and the means of analysis necessary to achieve the stated objectives. It is anticipated that the research will be in an area of Geography with which the student is already well acquainted having taken relevant courses at the 2000 or 3000 levels.

The purpose of the thesis is to test a student's ability to both initiate and complete original and independent work on a geographical topic. A variety of types of topics are feasible within the above stipulations. These include critical reviews of literature, contributions to conceptual or theoretical knowledge and theses that utilize primary data

derived from field mapping, laboratory observations, questionnaire surveys, archives and a variety of statistical sources such as census volumes and climatic records.

**The emphasis in the thesis is on quality not quantity. It is expected that most theses will comprise approximately 7000 words, which is roughly the length of an article in a major geographical journal, and in no case ought the completed theses to exceed 15,000 words or about 60 pages of text.** Indeed, journal literature provides good examples of topics which may be developed in a thesis, although it should be remembered that many such articles represent the condensation of major research projects and that such ambitious undertakings are not expected of honours students.

#### Approval of Topic

It is the responsibility of the student to submit a written statement to the Head briefly indicating the proposed area of research. The deadline for this submission is two weeks after the commencement of classes in the first term of the 4th year. Following a discussion of this statement between the Head and the student a thesis supervisor is assigned. Final approval of the topic is the responsibility of the supervisor.

#### Submission and Examination of Thesis

The thesis must be submitted in final form, in accordance with the regulation listed in the next section, by the last day of classes in the second term. Following submission, the thesis is examined and graded by the supervisor and a second examiner appointed by the Head following consultation with the supervisor.

#### Format and Presentation of Thesis

The following regulations apply to all theses:

- 1) These are to be printed and double spaced, on one side of good quality white bond 8 1/2" x 11" paper.

- 2) All pages must be numbered consecutively and have a 1 1/2" margin on the left-hand side and a 1" margin elsewhere.
- 3) Methods of reproduction of graphic materials and systems of referencing are to be decided in consultation with the supervisor.
- 4) Two good quality copies of the thesis are to be submitted for examination. Following examination and grading, changes may be required. After the recommended changes have been incorporated by the student, the approval sheet will be signed by the supervisor and second examiner. The complete thesis is then handed over to the department for binding and retention in the department library.
- 5) The introductory pages of the thesis must conform to the sample pages attached to these regulations.

TITLE IN CAPITALS

Name in lower case

Honours Thesis submitted to the  
Department of Environment and Geography, University of Manitoba  
in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
for the B.A. Honours Degree  
Month  
Year

## ABSTRACT

The thesis abstract is less than one page.

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\* All pages in the abstract, acknowledgements, table of contents, list of tables, list of figures and the first pages only of each chapter, each appendix and bibliography, are to be numbered at the bottom centre. All other pages are to be numbered in the top right-hand corner.



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CHAPTER ONE

TITLE IN UPPER CASE

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

ENVIRONMENT AND GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

The undersigned certify that they have read, and recommend to the Environment and Geography Department for acceptance, an Honours thesis entitled:

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submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of B.A. HONOURS IN  
GEOGRAPHY.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Advisor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner

Date \_\_\_\_\_

