

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BFA THESIS (Rev. 1/15/13; 7/24/17; 9/26/17;1/06/22)

The thesis creative works should run a minimum of 30 double-spaced pages for fiction or non-fiction, using 12-point type and a standard font such as Times Roman for fiction, or 20 pages for poetry (individual poems should be single-spaced), or 25 pages for a mixture of fiction and poetry. For hybrid works, it should be a minimum of 25 pages. This might include word+image pieces. If you're practicing in other hybrid forms, please speak to your BFA Thesis Advisor for other page expectations. Set your margins at 1 inch. Creative works should not exceed 60 pages. In addition to the minimum page requirement for your creative work is a ten- to fifteen-page introduction, using MLA Style and citing sources where necessary, in which you reflect on your goals coming into the program and explore your growth as a writer in the program in the following areas:

1. Writing effectively to communicate and/or to critically evaluate creative writing.
2. Producing creative work that is original and successful given its artistic aims.
3. Coming to a greater understanding of current practices of writing fiction and poetry.
4. Coming to a greater understanding of multicultural and historical contexts from which modes writing fiction and poetry have evolved.
5. Coming to a greater understanding of how fiction and/or poetry in YOUR thesis are situated in contemporary and/or historical contexts for creative writing. These contexts may also be aesthetic and/or theoretical.

Here are more specifics about preparing and submitting the thesis to complete your BFA degree.

1. Like Eng 4970, the thesis and senior reading are part of your BFA degree requirements for Creative Writing majors. You cannot pass Eng 4970 unless ALL required faculty sign your thesis AND you give your senior reading. Your senior reading MUST BE GIVEN IN THE SAME SEMESTER YOU ARE ENROLLED IN ENG 4970.
2. You must sign up for Eng 4970 in your senior year before graduation, after or during the semester in which you are completing all BFA requirements. You should have completed at least one 4000-level workshop prior to enrolling in Eng 4970 so you have some material to work with. If you expect to graduate in Fall, then you MUST register for Fall. If you expect to graduate in either Spring or Summer, you should register for ENG 4970 in the Spring. Your Eng 4970 professor will give you general guidance in the preparation of your thesis. But you will need a Creative Writing Faculty Genre Advisor who will read a review draft and who has the authority to approve it, along with the Director of the Creative Writing Program. Your ENG 4970 professor will guide you in the process of declaring your genre advisor. Please contact a genre advisor according to the assignment schedule. Typically, you should ask a faculty member in your genre who's worked with you in a course prior to ENG 4970 and who has a familiarity with your work.

5. The thesis should be typed clearly on good quality paper and should include the introduction and a table of contents. Print it on both sides of the page.

6. Your thesis should be prefaced with a "signature" page, i.e. a page on which you have the "Eng 4970 Professor," "Faculty Genre Advisor" and "Director(s), Creative Writing Program" sign their names. A sample of this page is attached.

7. PLEASE NOTE: The deadline for the final corrected copy of your thesis will be in the final week of your ENG 4970 class. This will be prior to BGSU's Finals Week in order to leave time to obtain signatures from Thesis Committee Members.

8. Because the Eng 4970 instructor MUST verify that your thesis is complete before passing you, you must follow this procedure:

- a) When your thesis is complete and by the deadline, hand-deliver it to Danielle Burkin in 212 East Hall.
- b) Danielle will then contact faculty who need to sign it.
- c) The English Department pays for one bound copy of your thesis to be kept in the department. However, if you want extra bound copies, you MUST provide Danielle with the copies, who will then give you a form that YOU fill out and take to Stampers to have the extra theses (or thesis) bound AT YOUR EXPENSE. It will also be up to you to make arrangements to pick up the extra bound theses AT STAMPERS. The English Department is NOT responsible for these extra theses. Contact Danielle at dburkin@bgsu.edu if you have questions.

Six Characters in Search of a Thesis

P. Randy Dello

P. Randy Dello

Jessica Zinz-Cheresnick
Eng 4970 Instructor – BFA Thesis Advisor

(type genre advisor's name here)
Creative Writing Faculty Genre Advisor

Jessica Zinz-Cheresnick
Undergraduate Director, Creative Writing Program

Lawrence Coates
Graduate Director, Creative Writing Program