GENERAL GUIDELINES for ARTISTIC THESIS PROJECTS

Initial Discussion: Students will attend a Thesis Orientation at the beginning of their second year. Afterward, contact the Director of Graduate Thesis to register your interest and discuss the scope of your project. Prof. Power will assign you a mentor who will guide you in writing a Thesis proposal.

Areas: Projects for consideration include:
- Acting in a major production
- Design of a major production
- Playwriting
- Directing a laboratory production
- Dramaturgy of a major production
- Solo Performance
- Public Administration/Marketing
- Or another appropriate activity, developed with Prof. Power and/or other faculty

NOTE: Proposals will be accepted for work done at Villanova only.

Proposal: Visit our Departmental Resources webpage to download guidelines for your Thesis project. Meet with your mentor for guidance in writing your Thesis proposal. Submit your proposal to your mentor ASAP for review. Observe all deadlines without fail.

Some proposals are tied to the departmental production schedule:
- Acting proposals should be submitted for review at the faculty meeting immediately after casting is announced.
- Design proposals should be submitted at the first faculty meeting of the fall semester.
- Directing proposals should be submitted at the first faculty meeting of the spring semester.
- The written dramaturgy proposal is due to the Dramaturgy Thesis Advisor no later than one week prior to the first faculty meeting of the semester in which the production is scheduled. However, Spring semester candidates are strongly encouraged to submit their proposals before the end of fall semester."

Proposal Title: Please create a title for your Thesis project that becomes the title of your proposal.
**Budget Proposal:** All potential thesis students need to adhere to the budget proposal requirements laid out in the Thesis Budget Guidelines and Template document, located [here](#). There are budget parameters for every project but a budget needs to be created and a proposal needs to be submitted along with the original thesis proposal. The budget proposal is then approved by the Department Chair and Business Manager. This should be finalized when the thesis is approved.

The approved budget will be no more than the following:

- Directing: $300
- Solo: $200
- Playwriting: $100
- Dramaturgy: $50
- Academic: $50

**Rehearsal Information:** The rehearsal schedule needs to be submitted to the Business Manager so that Public Safety is aware when students are working on nights and weekends.

All key requests for rehearsals and performances need to be submitted to the Business Manager before rehearsals begin to insure access to spaces that require keys rather than codes.

**Project Committee:** Prof. Power will inform you of the approval of your proposal. You will then be assigned a three-person committee that includes your mentor. You may request committee members but you are not invited to contact them directly.

**Qualifying for the Project Defense:**

The committee will evaluate your artistic work. If your artistic work meets with the committee’s approval, a Thesis Project Defense will be scheduled. The Project Defense will begin with a ten-minute analytic retrospective of your artistic process, followed by a discussion of your analysis and your work with the committee. Your Thesis project is finished with the successful completion of the Thesis Project defense. The defense will be held within a few weeks of the completion of your artistic work.

Revised by Harriet Power 8/12/14
Revised by Chelsea Phillips 5/26/16