

## **Department of Art History & Visual Studies Master's and PhD Proposals: Formatting Guidelines**

The proposals for your MA Research Paper or PhD Dissertation should be formatted accordingly:

1. 2,000 words maximum for MA and 3,000 for PhD; provide word count. This does not include timeline, endnotes, bibliography or images.
2. Use font 12, leave adequate margins on all four sides.
3. The broad sections of the proposal are:
  - 1) introduction and overview of the problem you are researching. A key goal here is to indicate the **value** of the research project that you wish to work on.
  - 2) key research questions and context of the problem
  - 3) literature review - not a survey but a critical argument about the literature and the place of your project within it
  - 4) methodological approach
  - 5) conclusion with research outcomes and contribution to knowledge. Academics disseminate their research. The Department wishes to see that you have a plan to mobilize your research contribution. Address how your research will have an impact on various communities, as applicable.
  - 6) timeline can be presented in tabular format or a simple chronology; append to end of main proposal.