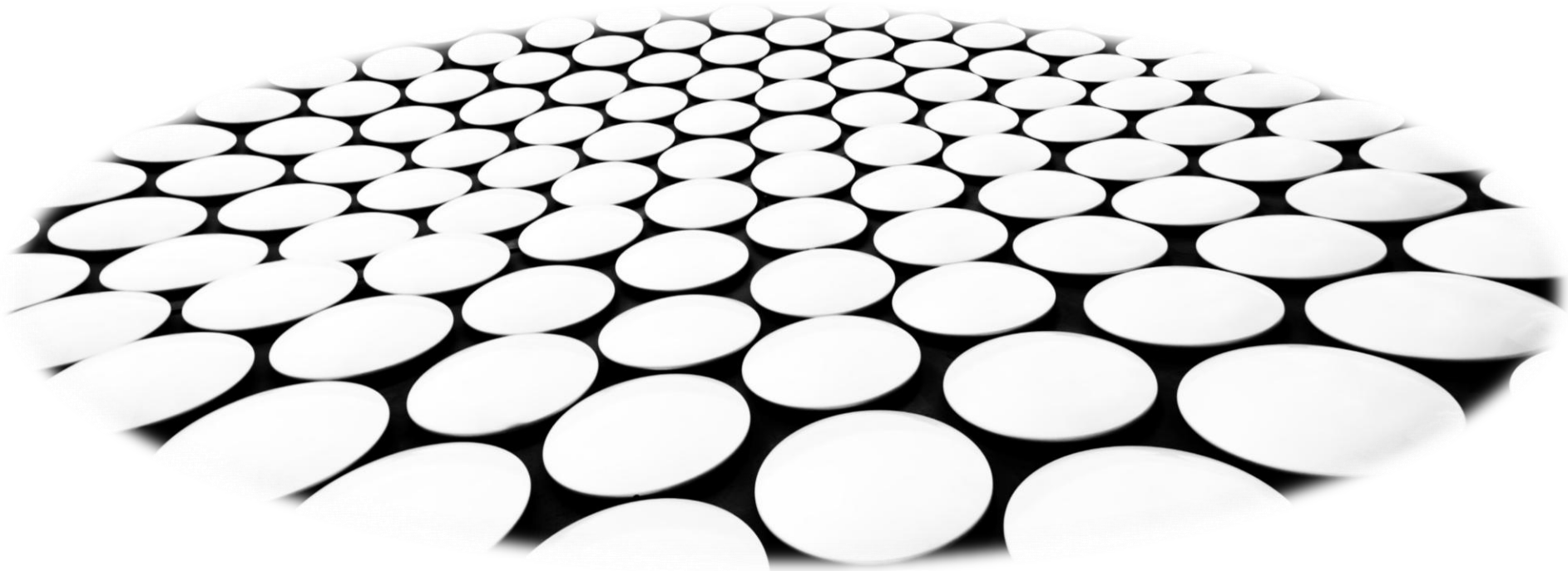




Master of Arts in English Literature: A Guide to Dissertation Projects (Graduation Research Projects)



DISSERTATION PROJECTS
IMSIU, 2025

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INTRODUCTION



This guide provides a comprehensive overview of the requirements for completing a Master of Arts in English Literature at Imam Mohammed ibn Saud Islamic University, College of Languages and Translation. It explains the study system and offers insights on how to develop a compelling dissertation proposal. The guide also outlines the essential steps for executing your dissertation project. Additionally, it highlights the key characteristics of a Master's project and provides guidance on crafting a well-structured proposal. Furthermore, it addresses the practical aspects of submitting your dissertation project, including binding requirements and the process for requesting your graduation degree. This resource is designed to assist students in successfully navigating their dissertation journey.



Program Mission & Objectives

Program Mission:

The Master of Arts in English Literature program prepares graduates in literary studies and advanced writing through a rigorous curriculum, modern resources, and appropriate facilities that promote academic excellence, **research innovation**, and community engagement.



Program Goals

1. Equip graduates with a deep and specialized knowledge of English literature for advanced academic study.
2. Educate graduates in the scholarly methods of intellectual inquiry and critical analysis to engage with key issues in English literary studies.



3. Promote a supportive **research environment** for **knowledge discovery and critical thinking** by equipping graduates with **essential research skills** and modern technologies.

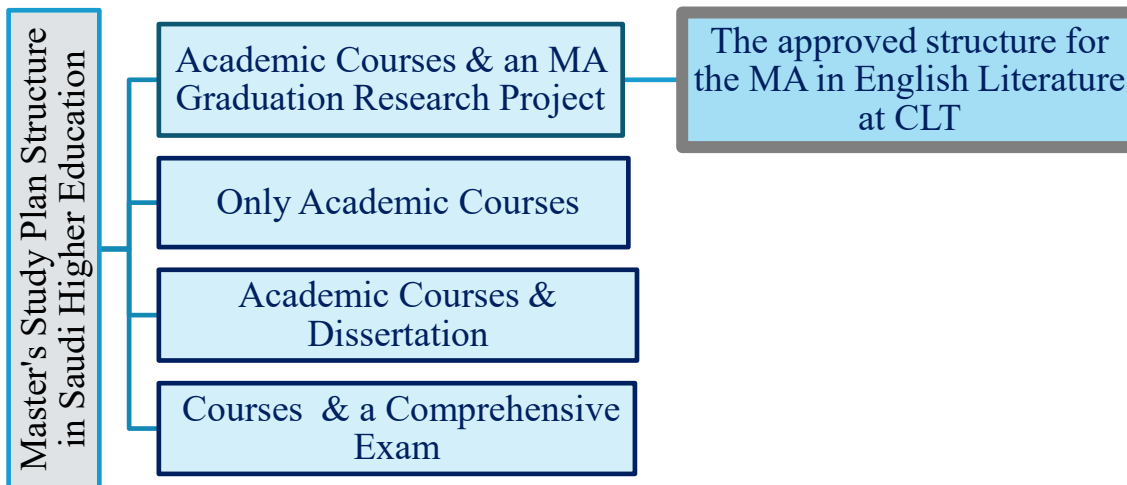


4. Integrate coursework with **research training** and conduct an independent Master's **graduate research project** to develop expertise in publishing.



5. Prepare literature graduates to effectively translate their knowledge into practical applications that hold significance in fulfilling the needs of community.

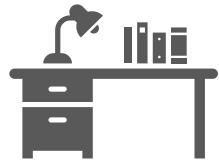
MASTER'S STUDY PLAN STRUCTURE IN SAUDI HIGHER EDUCATION



Information is available in the Unified By-Laws for Graduate Studies in Saudi Universities from the relevant article. 12, page 10. [Click Here](#)

Program Structure		No. of Courses	Credit Hours	Percentage
Course	Required	9	36	75%
	Elective	2	8	17%
Graduation Project		1	4	8%
Total		12	48	100%

PROGRAM COURSES TIMELINE



Courses

Research Methods in Literature

Readings in English Novel

Readings in English Poetry

Readings in English Drama

Critical Theory

Comparative Literature

Readings in Contemporary Literary Fiction

Readings in American Literature

Elective Courses

Elective Courses

Dissertation Proposal

MA Dissertation Project

	L 1		L 2			L3			L 4		L 5
Research Methods in Literature											
Readings in English Novel											
Readings in English Poetry											
Readings in English Drama											
Critical Theory											
Comparative Literature											
Readings in Contemporary Literary Fiction											
Readings in American Literature											
Elective Courses											
Elective Courses											
Dissertation Proposal											
MA Dissertation Project											

Compulsory Courses

Elective Courses

ARTICLE FORTY-THREE: REGISTRATION OF GRADUATION DISSERTATION PROJECTS

- ❑ The University Council outlines the regulations governing the registration of graduation research projects.

Registration Regulations

Students are required to register their graduation dissertation project with the course professor, as detailed in **Article Forty-Three**. This registration process does not require approval from the Department or College Council. It is imperative to adhere to the established regulations, conditions, and ethical standards of scientific research as approved by the university when registering for the graduation research project.

Information is available in the *Unified By-Laws for Graduate Studies in Saudi Universities* from the relevant article 43, page 26. [Click Here](#)



❑ Article Forty-Three

The graduation dissertation course requires a minimum of five registered students. The College Council may grant exceptions to this limit based on regulations approved by the University Council and a proposal from the Standing Committee.

Executive Regulations for Article Forty-Three

- If a student does not complete the graduation dissertation project within the semester, they will receive a designation of (P) or (IP). After completion, the student will receive their final grade as per **Article Thirty-Four** of the Study and Examinations Regulations.
- The students must complete and submit the research project within a maximum of two semesters, as defined in **Article 1***.
- Registration for the graduation dissertation project will be conducted with the course instructor and does not require approval from the Department or College Council.
- Supervision of the course will be counted toward the faculty member's teaching load based on the hours specified in the approved program plan.

***Article One: Graduation Project** is a required project that focuses on a specific topic and typically spans one to two semesters, contributing to the fulfilment of an academic degree.

Key Terms



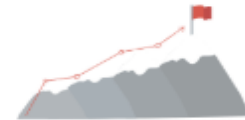
The Dissertation Proposal

The dissertation proposal acts as a guiding framework for students as they prepare their dissertation projects. It articulates the envisioned approach for implementing the research methodology. The preparation of the research plan may differ based on the nature of the study and the specific scientific methods pertinent to each specialization. As such, students must adhere to the established methodology of their discipline and follow the instructions provided by their course professor.



Graduation Dissertation Project

The Graduation Dissertation Project enables students to apply the knowledge, skills, and values gained throughout their academic coursework. Students are required to research a topic of their choice within their chosen specialization and track. This project is a mandatory component for graduation and holds a value of four credit hours within the overall program. As with other courses, it is evaluated based on the student's performance, with grades awarded as excellent, very good, good, acceptable, or failing.

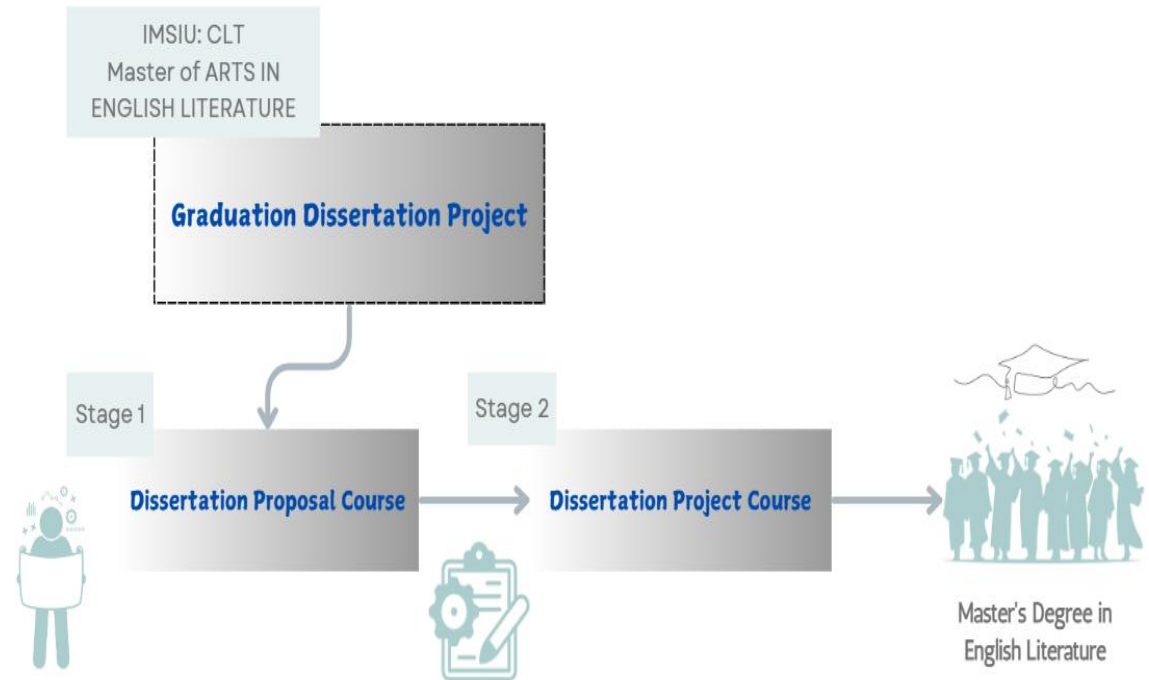


GRADUATION DISSERTATION PROJECTS

After completing their academic courses, students undertake a graduation research project in two stages. These stages are carefully designed to help students develop specialized knowledge within their fields, as well as essential skills such as effective communication, in-depth analysis, and critical evaluation of complex concepts. This comprehensive process prepares students to create and contribute new insights and knowledge to their disciplines.

➡ The first stage focuses on the **Dissertation Proposal Course**, where students formulate and present their research project topic.

➡ The second stage is dedicated to the actual writing and completion of the **Dissertation Project**.



Recommended Attributes of Master's Graduation Dissertation Projects

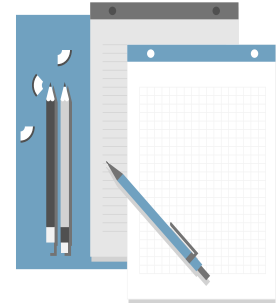
It is advisable, although not required, that Master's Graduation Research Projects exhibit both novelty and originality.



Novelty refers to the following concepts:



- A - The *uniqueness* of the topic or most of its details.
- B - A fundamental *change* in information, sources, and knowledge that impacts previous research.
- C - The introduction of *new research tools* that are relevant to the topic.



Originality and innovation encompass the following ideas:

- A - Exploring an area that has *never been researched* before or addressing *gaps* in existing studies.
- B - Utilizing data in *innovative ways* can uncover results that were previously *unseen*.
- C - The application of *new research tools* can lead to discoveries that *have not been identified* before.
- D - Employing established research tools in different contexts may *yield alternative outcomes*
- E - Gathering new data and analyzing it to obtain *fresh outcomes*.
- F - Addressing *critical problems*.
- G - Implementing theoretical knowledge to develop *new practical applications*.



DISSERTATION PROPOSAL COMPONENTS

A dissertation proposal generally includes the following components:

- **Title:** The title should be concise, reflective of the topic, and clearly delineate its scope and dimensions.
- **Introduction:** This section should address the study's topic and significance, outline the reasons for selecting the topic, define the study's objectives, and present the research questions.
- **Literature Review:** This section summarizes key studies relevant to the topic and compares them to the research questions. It also identifies gaps in the existing literature and describes the contributions of the proposed research.
- **Methodology:** This section will outline the research methodology, the tools used for research, the rationale behind the terms, and any limitations encountered during the study.
- **Chapter Outlines:** This section outlines the structure of the dissertation project, including the introduction, preface, chapters, subsections, topics, conclusion, and indexes. It is crucial to maintain methodological coherence and a balanced approach across all sections.
- **Sources and References*:** The most important primary sources and references will be referred to in this research, according to the scientific method for recording references.



Components of a Dissertation Proposal

Title

Introduction

Literature Review

Methodology

Chapter Outlines

Works Cited

*MLA style is commonly used in the liberal arts and humanities, and the reference section is referred to as "Works Cited."

PRELIMINARY PAGES:

1. TITLE PAGE: Cover



- ❑ **The title page (page title) should be formatted in Times New Roman font and must include the following elements:**

On the top left side, include the following:

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Ministry of Education
Imam Mohammad ibn Saud Islamic University
Name of the college or institute
Scientific department

On the right side, insert the approved university logo in high resolution.

- ❑ **Dissertation Project Title:** The approved title should be centred on the page. If there is a subtitle or explanatory description, it should be placed directly below the main title.
- ❑ **Academic Stage and Specialization:** Include the name of the researcher (student).
- ❑ **Name of the Supervisor:** Provide the name of the supervisor (Course Instructor), preceded by their academic rank (for example, Prof. Dr. or Dr.) and specialization.
- ❑ **The academic year:** first in the Hijri date followed by the Gregorian date.

Refer to pages 21 to 43 for more information. [Click Here](#)

Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Ministry of Education
Imam Mohammad ibn Saud Islamic University
College of Languages and Translation
Department of English Language and Literature

TITLE
Times New Roman – 20 Bold

By (Author)
Times New Roman – 16 Bold

**A Non-Thesis Research Project Submitted for
the Requirements of the Degree of _____**
(Department/Minor Specialization)
Times New Roman – 16 Bold

Supervised By
Prof. Dr.
Dr.
Times New Roman – 16 Bold

FACULTY OF.....
Imam Muhammad Bin Saud Islamic University
SAUDI ARABIA
Hejri Year / Gregorian Year
Times New Roman – 16 Bold

PRELIMINARY PAGES:

2. BASMALA PAGE

3. TITLE PAGE: Internal



4. DEDICATION PAGE (optional)

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TITLE Times New Roman – 20 Bold	٥
By (Author) Times New Roman – 16 Bold	١٢
A Non-thesis Research Project Submitted for the Requirements of the Degree of----- (Department/Minor Specialization) Times New Roman – 16 Bold	١٦
Supervised By Prof. Dr. Dr. Times New Roman – 16 Bold	٢٠
FACULTY OF..... Imam Muhammad Bin Saud Islamic University SAUDI ARABIA Hejri Year / Gregorian Year Times New Roman – 16 Bold	٢٤

Lecture 10
Introduction to the
Introduction to the

The abstract is a summary of the dissertation project, provided in both Arabic and English. It must cover all aspects of the research. The text should be formatted in Times New Roman font for English and Sakkal Majal font for Arabic. The length of the abstract should not exceed 350 words for a master's degree dissertation project. It should present the topic, objectives, methodology, and scope of the research. Additionally, it should briefly describe the methods used and the procedures followed, while highlighting the most important ideas.

[illegible][illegible]

PRELIMINARY PAGES:

7. TABLE OF CONTENTS



TABLE OF CONTENTS	
Times New Roman – 20 Bold	
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1.2 Main Title	2
1.3 Main Title	3
1.3.1 Subtitle	5
1.3.2 Subtitle	5
Chapter II: Title	12
2.1 Main Title	12
2.1.1 Subtitle	13

BINDING OF DISSERTATION PROJECTS

❖ The outer cover must be printed according to the specifications outlined on the title page and must adhere to the following guidelines:

- The cover will be hardcover and feature luxurious binding.
- The binding colour for master's dissertation projects is green.
- The text on the outer cover will be printed in gold and should follow these arrangements:
 - The phrase "A Non-thesis Research Project Submitted for the Requirements of the Degree of Master's in English Literature."
 - College name
 - University name
 - Month and year in both Hijri and Gregorian calendars
 - Academic degree (Master's)
 - The title centred
 - The student's name at the bottom of the spine
- The information on the dissertation project spine will also be printed in gold, following the same arrangement as mentioned above.
- The inner cover will be printed in gold on polished white paper.
- The direction of the writing should be from bottom to top at the heel of the dissertation project.



Refer to pages 64 to 66 for more information. [Click Here](#)

DISSERTATION PROJECT SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

- ✓ After completing the dissertation project and receiving the corresponding grade, the graduate student must submit a graduation request for the Master of Arts program through the Higher Education System (OLIA). This submission must include an electronic copy of the dissertation project.



- ✓ The student is required to provide a printed copy to the Central Library at Imam Mohammed ibn Saud Islamic University.

Refer to pages 21 to 43 for more information. [Click Here](#)



REGULATIONS GOVERNING STUDENT DISCIPLINE

(Relating to Research: Academic Papers,
Dissertation Projects, and Dissertations)

Article 10

The Violation of Academic Integrity



The following actions are considered violations:



Assigning the
responsibility of writing
research materials to
someone else.

Submitting the same
research for credit in
multiple courses without
appropriate disclosure



Engaging in plagiarism, which includes
appropriating someone else's work or
ideas from printed materials or the
Internet.



This graphic illustrates
Educational Violations as outlined
in Article 10 of the Student
Discipline Regulations (Page 29).
For further information, [Click Here](#)

This document is issued by the College of Languages and Translation, Master of Arts in English Literature Program, Imam Mohammad ibn Saud Islamic University, in accordance with the Deanship of Quality and Development, 2025

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Date: 12-03-2025

