



College of Letters and Science
Department of English

Dissertation Intention Form
 (For Creative Writing Students Only)

Background: Doctoral students in creative writing have two options as they commence their dissertation. From the *Graduate Handbook*: “1) The student can choose to write a dissertation proposal and follow all of the steps required of this process. Or, 2) the student can choose to complete a Dissertation Intention Form, which must be approved by the student's Committee, the Coordinator for Creative Writing, and by the Associate Chair for Graduate Studies. After the creative body of the dissertation is completed, this option commits the student to writing a critical introduction in prose (3000-9000 words) which demonstrates the correlation between the candidate's academic and creative interests. The critical introduction would follow MLA guidelines for documentation and might discuss, for example: contexts for understanding the artistic body of the dissertation; relation to ongoing literary trends, cultural, and/or historical issues; and articulation of literary/artistic influences. As with the entire dissertation, the critical introduction must meet the Committee's standards for quality.”¹ This document addresses option 2. Please note, as stated above, choosing this route obligates the student to write the critical introduction after the creative body of the dissertation is completed.

Instructions: Obtain signatures from your committee and submit this completed form to the Department of English Graduate Studies Office in Curtin 422 within one semester of completing your preliminary exam. You must also complete the Declaration of Committee form and turn it into the Graduate Studies Office. **Finally, the Doctoral Dissertation Proposal Hearing form, a Graduate School form, must be completed as part of the online Doctoral Milestones System.**

| | |
|--|--|
| Student name: | |
| Date admitted to Ph.D. program: | Expected date for completion of dissertation: |
| Dissertation name: | |
| Dissertation genre: | |
| Dissertation description: <i>Please include a brief description of dissertation (500 words or less) on the reverse of this form, or on a separate, attached document.</i> | |

Approvals

| | Type or print name | Signature | Date |
|--|---------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Student's committee chair: | | | |
| Student's committee member: | | | |
| Student's committee member: | | | |
| <i>(The signatures above must be obtained before seeking those below.)</i> | | | |
| Coordinator for Creative Writing | | | |
| Associate Chair for Graduate Studies | | | |

**Dissertation Intention
Permission Form (optional)**

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Name | |
| Date | Plan |
| Tentative Title | |

Pending its approval by my committee, I _____ grant the Associate Chair for Graduate Studies in the Department of English permission to share a copy of my Dissertation Intention form with other graduate students. Copies will be shared only by email or in hard copy, and never posted publicly for downloading. Copies are meant solely for other graduate students in the Department of English to use as possible models for their own critical introduction.

Signature _____ Date _____