AAACS THESIS GUIDELINES

For students doing a **one semester thesis in the FALL TERM** OR beginning an **Honors thesis in the fall term:**

1. Meeting with Advisor: **By the end of exam week**, **during the winter term of junior year**, students should have met with a prospective thesis advisor, discussed the thesis topic, and submitted a **THESIS ADVISOR FORM** to the Program Chair. Students should take the initiative to contact an advisor, as the program will not do this for you. Students should be aware that if they do not consult with an advisor and submit an advisor form on time they may have to have an advisor assigned, and may forfeit the right to choose their own topic.

2. Proposal: Students should meet with their thesis advisors shortly after returning to campus in the fall, and must submit a thesis proposal to the Program Chair, for AAACS Committee review, by the **second Wednesday of the Fall Term**. See separate sheet for proposal guidelines.

3. Thesis: **For one-semester theses**, the deadline for submission of chapters, etc. will be determined by the thesis advisor in consultation with the student. The final deadline will generally be the Friday of Reading Week. **For Honor theses**, students should follow College guidelines for submissions of material. A copy of thesis should be submitted to the program upon completion.

For students doing a thesis in **WINTER TERM**:

1. Meeting with Advisor: By the **Monday before October Break,** Fall Term, senior year, students should have met with a prospective advisor, discussed the thesis topic, and have submitted a THESIS ADVISOR FORM to the Program Chair. Students must initiate the contact with an advisor, and they should be aware that if they do not consult with an advisor and submit an advisor form on time, they may forfeit their choice of topic.

2. Proposal: After consulting with their advisors, students must submit a thesis proposal to the Program Chair, for AAACS Committee review, **by the Friday before Thanksgiving break**. See separate sheet for proposal guidelines

3. Thesis: The deadline for the submission of chapters, etc. will be determined by the thesis advisor in consultation with the student. The thesis will generally be due on the Friday of Reading Week. A copy of the thesis should be submitted to the Program upon completion.

*** Students who are here during Short Term may submit the form during that time.**

AAACS THESIS PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

For one semester theses:

This proposal should be at least two pages, typed. It should:

a) Provide a clear statement of the subject to be examined, including some of the specific questions to be addressed. It should indicate how these questions fit into American Cultural Studies or African American Studies.

b) Include a discussion of the methods to be used in answering the questions and a description of how these methods are interdisciplinary.

c) Include a preliminary timeline for completion of research and writing.

d) Provide a **separate** attached list of works to be consulted (at least one page).

For Honors Theses:

This proposal should be at least three-four pages, typed. It should complete the requirements listed above (a,b,c,d) for one semester theses, but in addition it should demonstrate that some of the relevant literature has been examined, should describe the major disagreements in this literature, and describe how this project fits into the existing literature.

AAACS THESIS ADVISOR FORM

Student Name: _____

Subject of thesis:
_____
_____
_____
_____

Major: (circle one) AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

AMERICAN CULTURAL STUDIES

Type of thesis: (circle one) HONORS THESIS

FALL, ONE SEMESTER THESIS

WINTER, ONE SEMESTER THESIS

TWO SEMESTER, NON-HONORS

I have agreed to advise the above student in an American Cultural Studies or African American Studies thesis.

Signature of thesis advisor: _____ Date _____

Signature of student: _____ Date _____

The student should return this form to the Program Chair at the time specified on the Thesis Guidelines handout.