[First Reader:

Office Hours:

Office:

Email:

Second Reader:

Office Hours:

Office:

Email:]

English 890: Master’s Thesis with [student name]

**Course Description:**

The Master’s Thesis is intended to be a demonstration of the student’s ability to formulate a problem in literary study, to pursue its solution through appropriate scholarly, critical, and analytical techniques, and to present the results in suitable written form.

[Fill-in any further information if desired on the topic of the thesis]

**Grading Scale:**

WSU uses a +/- grading scale for final grades and to calculate grade point averages. In this class, grades are assigned according to the following: S for satisfactory performance; U for unsatisfactory performance; I for ongoing thesis projects

**Assignments:**

Successful completion of the following assignments will earn a grade of “S” (satisfactory). The transcript will normally carry the grade of I (incomplete) until the thesis, including the oral defense, has been completed and the student has met the requirements of the supervisory committee and the Graduate School.

Prospectus: Prior to enrollment in English 890 (thesis hours) but after obtaining agreement from a second reader, the candidate will submit to the Graduate Coordinator a prospectus—devised in cooperation with his/her director and second reader—which contains the following information: the name of the student, the director and the second reader, the tentative title, and a 3-5 page research statement explaining a) the research problem, including a clear delimitation of the subject and definitions of important terms; b) the hypothesis or main idea (may be under development at this stage); c) the relations between the project and published scholarship or criticism; and d) a sense of the importance of the project. A preliminary bibliography of primary and secondary sources, including recent and important scholarship must be attached.

Thesis: Although the essay need not be thought of as a publishable contribution to knowledge, it should develop a new interpretation, reinterpret available information, present a new approach to the given material, and/or refute or modify some interpretation(s) previously appearing in print. It must demonstrate the author’s ability to assemble and evaluate pertinent materials from primary and secondary sources. In final form the essay must develop a central thesis. The writing must be clear, free from solecisms, and suited to the occasion. The Master’s Thesis would normally extend to a length (exclusive of title page, preliminaries, bibliography, appendices, etc.) of 25 to 50 pages. Though work on a thesis may extend beyond one semester, students are expected to progress significantly toward a finished thesis during the semester for which they receive three units academic credit.

Oral Defense: The Master’s Thesis student must also successfully defend his or her thesis orally to a committee that includes the director of the thesis, a graduate faculty member from the English department, and a reader from outside the English department who is a graduate faculty member.

[Other methods of evaluation if required]

**Measurable Student Outcomes:**

At the completion of this course, the student will have:

* Identified a topic for study in consultation with the instructor (for assignments, see Prospectus)
* Reviewed appropriate resources, e.g., readings, appropriate to the topic (for assignments, see Prospectus and Thesis)
* Evaluated the [topic] in terms of its relevance to the discipline (for assignments, see Prospectus and Thesis)
* Engaged in assessment covering the topic to assure competency in topic area (for assignments, see Thesis and Oral Defense)

**Tentative Schedule:**

[Fill-in brief schedule here, including information on planned meetings (weekly, bi-weekly, etc), due dates for assignments, reading schedule if you have it]

**Important Academic Dates:**

For \_\_\_\_\_semester 20\_\_, classes begin \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_, and end \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, 20\_\_. The last date to drop a class and receive a W (withdrawn) instead of F (failed) is \_\_\_\_, 20\_\_. There are no classes on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_. The final exam period is \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

**Definition of a Credit Hour:**

Success in this 3 credit hour course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction and preparation/studying or course related activities for a total of 135 hours.

**How to use this syllabus:**

This syllabus provides you with information specific to this course, and it also provides information about important university policies. This document should be viewed as a course overview; it is not a contract and is subject to change as the semester evolves

**Academic Honesty:**

Students are responsible for knowing and following the Student Code of Conduct <http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch8_05.htm>and the Student Academic Honesty policy [http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch2\_17.htm.](http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch2_17.htm)

# Disabilities:

If you have a physical, psychiatric/emotional, or learning disability that may impact on your ability to carry out assigned course work, I encourage you to contact the Office of Disability Services (DS). The office is located in Grace Wilkie Annex, room 150, (316) 978-3309 (voice/tty) (316-854-3032 videophone). DS will review your concerns and determine, with you, what academic accommodations are necessary and appropriate for you. All information and documentation of your disability is confidential and will not be released by DS without your written permission.

# Counseling & Testing:

The WSU Counseling & Testing Center provides professional counseling services to students, faculty and staff; administers tests and offers test preparation workshops; and presents programs on topics promoting personal and professional growth. Services are low cost and confidential. They are located in room 320 of Grace Wilkie Hall, and their phone number is (316) 978-3440. The Counseling & Testing Center is open on all days that the University is officially open. If you have a mental health emergency during the times that the Counseling & Testing Center is not open, please call COMCARE Crisis Services at (316) 660-7500.

# Diversity and Inclusivity:

Wichita State University is committed to being an inclusive campus that reflects the evolving diversity of society. To further this goal, WSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, marital status, political affiliation, status as a veteran, genetic information or disability. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding nondiscrimination policies: Executive Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS 67260-0138; telephone (316) 978-3186.

# Intellectual Property:

Wichita State University students are subject to Board of Regents and University policies (see <http://webs.wichita.edu/inaudit/ch9_10.htm>) regarding intellectual property rights. Any questions regarding these rights and any disputes that arise under these policies will be resolved by the President of the University, or the President’s designee, and such decision will constitute the final decision.

# Shocker Alert System:

Get the emergency information you need instantly and effortlessly! With the Shocker Alert System, we will contact you by email the moment there is an emergency or weather alert that affects the campus. Sign up at [www.wichita.edu/alert.](http://www.wichita.edu/alert)