

**SENIOR THESIS: FORMAT AND PRESENTATION**  
**SOCIAL STUDIES, SPRING 2022**

---

**LENGTH.** Social Studies Senior Theses should be between 20,000 and 30,000 words of text. **Theses that exceed 30,000 words may be penalized by up to half a grade for excessive length.**

**You are required to attach a word count to your thesis. To do so, write out the number of words in your text (not including footnotes, appendices, and bibliography) on an otherwise blank piece of paper and include it as the last page in your thesis (for example: Word Count: 21,999). Theses will not be accepted without a word count.**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.** **You may not include an acknowledgements page in the thesis you submit for grading.** If your thesis is accepted for archives, you will have ample opportunity to insert acknowledgements.

**WORD PROCESSING.** **Please print your thesis single-sided,** as a double-sided thesis will not fit properly into a binder. The text, apart from quotations of more than 50 words and from footnotes, should be double-spaced. Pages should be numbered.

**MARGINS.** Should be eight spaces (one inch) at the top and bottom of each page, with **two inches** at the left edge and one inch at the right so that the thesis can fit into a binder.

**FOOTNOTES.** Follow the foot-or end-noting conventions of the discipline with which the essay is most closely associated.

**TITLE PAGE.** Here is an example of the text that should be appropriately centered and spaced on the title page:

(title of essay)

An Essay Presented

by

(first name, middle name, and last name of author)

to

The Committee on Degrees in Social Studies

in partial fulfillment of the requirements  
for a degree with honors  
of Bachelor of Arts

Harvard College  
(month and year)