

### CLJC Preliminary MA Thesis Approval Form

Purpose: The Center for Law, Justice & Culture requires MA students who wish to pursue the MA thesis option to submit a preliminary summary of their research plans prior the start of the semester preceding the final semester in the program.

Eligibility: All MA students, including on campus and eCampus students, are eligible to pursue the MA thesis option. Students pursuing the MA thesis option must sign up for 4 credits of LJC 6950: Thesis in Law, Justice & Culture, which requires the permission of the MA thesis advisor, in each of their final two semesters of the program. These courses count as two elective courses in the MA program.

Form Submission: Students are requested to submit a single-spaced PDF document with the following sections:

- Cover page: Prepare a cover page containing the information shown on the accompanying template. The student must sign the cover page and include a line for the signature of the CLJC Graduate Director. The CLJC Graduate Director will sign the form if approval is granted. Please scan the signed page and submit it as the first page of the submission.
- Brief Narrative: Prepare a brief written narrative of the preliminary thesis project and purpose. Applicants may address the aim and scope of the project, any scholarly literature that may inform the project, any data sources that may be accessed, and any research methods that may be used for data collection and analysis. This section must not exceed 500 words.
- Qualifications of Applicant: Provide any information that may assist the committee in assessing the qualifications of the applicant to carry out the thesis project. Qualifications may include relevant theoretical, methodological, or topical coursework at the undergraduate level, relevant prior work or internship experience, relevant prior research experience, etc. This section must not exceed 250 words.
- Timeline: Prepare a general timeline of the plan for project design, proposal development, data collection and analysis, and write-up and revision. Please note that all students pursuing the CLJC MA thesis must hold a full proposal defense with all members of the thesis committee by the end of Week 11 of fall semester, and must complete the oral defense of the thesis by the end of Week 12 of spring semester. This section must not exceed a half page.
- Resources: Prepare a brief statement of any resources required for the completion of the project. If resources are required, please indicate whether these resources are available and how these resources will be sought or procured. This section must not exceed 150 words.
- Potential Advisors: Provide one or two names of potential thesis advisors for the project. The primary thesis advisor must be a CLJC faculty affiliate. If the preliminary thesis plan is approved, the CLJC Graduate Director will work with the student to identify and confirm a thesis advisor prior to the start of fall semester.

Process: One signed electronic copy of the proposal is to be submitted to the CLJC Director by the established deadline. The CLJC Graduate Director, in consultation with the CLJC Graduate Committee, will review the CLJC Preliminary MA Thesis Approval Form in order to assess the strength and feasibility of the proposed project. The Graduate Director may request a scheduled conversation with the student to discuss the timeline in more depth. Committee feedback on the proposal will be available upon request.



**Proposal Form  
Center for Law, Justice & Culture  
Preliminary MA Thesis Approval Form**

STUDENT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SELECT ONE:            ON CAMPUS (MA4416)            ECAMPUS (MA4417)

SEMESTER OF ENTRY IN MA PROGRAM: \_\_\_\_\_

SEMESTER OF COMPLETION (ANTICIPATED) IN MA PROGRAM: \_\_\_\_\_

LIST OF COURSEWORK COMPLETED AND ANTICIPATED IN THE CLJC MA PROGRAM:

PRELIMINARY PROJECT TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's Signature)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(CLJC Graduate Director's Signature)

Name: Dr. Haley Duschinski

Date: \_\_\_\_\_