

CRITICAL THESIS EVALUATION

Critical theses will be evaluated by the following criteria:

- 1.) **Participating in a Critical Conversation:** Does the thesis articulate or respond to a central problem or question? Does it demonstrate—via research and engagement with sources—how this question fits into a larger critical, historical, or theoretical conversation?

- 2.) **Argumentation:** Is the argumentation compelling and clear throughout the thesis?

- 3.) **Originality/Style:** Does the writer have an authoritative and/or original voice? Does the thesis have something new to say or advance its points in an original way?

- 4.) **Structure:** Is the thesis clearly and consistently organized? Is it relatively easy to understand transitions between sections and chapters?

- 5.) **Citations/Polish:** Does the thesis use citations correctly and consistently, and does it avoid writing and proofreading errors?

The final Distinction level will be determined by the collective weight of the three thesis recommendations.