

Creative Writing Guidelines

Pforzheimer Honors College Thesis

Thesis Requirements:

Poetry: The Pforzheimer Honors College thesis in poetry should be a substantial body of work of at least 20 pages. The number of poems included is decided upon by the student in consultation with the faculty thesis advisor.

Fiction: The Pforzheimer Honors College thesis in fiction should be at least 25 pages. This may include works of different lengths or a single long piece in any type of fiction including prose fiction, short stories, or a novella.

Creative Nonfiction: The Pforzheimer Honors College thesis in creative nonfiction should be at least 25 pages. This may include works of different lengths or a single long piece in any type of creative nonfiction, such as personal essay, memoir, biography, or food and travel writing.

Screenwriting: The Pforzheimer Honors College thesis in screenwriting should be approximately 40 pages and consist of a treatment or outline (about 10 pages) for a feature-length original screenplay or adaptation; and the first 30 pages or first act of a typically structured three-act play) in standard screenplay format.

Presentation of the Thesis:

Each student will sign up for a 30 minute presentation that will include a 20 minute reading and 10 minutes for questions. The thesis advisor will help facilitate this question and answer session. Audience members might ask questions about the creative work or the process behind it. The Screenwriting presentation may involve actors recruited to read the script.