

EDP MA Thesis Guidelines

The Final Thesis or Project, while carrying the same weight, take on slightly different forms and thus assessment models:

- **EDP MA Thesis** is a long-form research paper, typically 80-120 pages in length with an accompanying digital element. The required digital element is a sort of appendix to the thesis, supporting the ideas with multimedia, links to sources and examples, or even testing the ideas of the thesis. The Thesis is evaluated using the University of Denver Masters Thesis model, meaning that a committee of 4 people evaluate the work along with a public presentation of the research and an oral defense of the written thesis. Of the four committee members, two must be full time EDP Faculty, while the Oral Defense Committee Chair must be a non-EDP full time faculty member. By Office of Graduate Studies requirements, the committee chair is not involved in Thesis advising, attends the final thesis presentation and oral defense, and submits the required paperwork to the Office of Graduate Studies. The Thesis will be evaluated for the following:
 - to what extent the Thesis critically reflects on the current state of EDP, provides new and meaningful insights to current issues and participates in emerging trends, ideas, processes, and theories in scholarship.
 - to what extent the Thesis establishes a foundation for new scholarship in the field of Emergent Digital Practices.
 - to what extent are the ideas in the Thesis rigorously researched and the various hypotheses supported.
 - to what extent has the Thesis covered and cited related ideas from the past.
 - to what extent does the digital element support, test or further unpack the ideas of the Thesis.

- **EDP MA Project** is a significant digital creation, ranging from artistic to cultural to applied. Every Project is accompanied by a supporting paper 30-50 pages in length detailing goals for the project, the research into related work, and a critical analysis of the final results. The MA Project is evaluated by a committee of 3 full-time faculty members, at least two of them from the EDP program. The submission of the MA Project must be accompanied by a public presentation and an oral defense. The MA Project does not require a committee chair from outside EDP. The MA Project is evaluated for the following:
 - to what extent the Project critically reflects on the current state of EDP, provides new and meaningful insights to current issues and participates in emerging trends, ideas, processes, and practices in making.
 - to what extent the Project establishes a foundation for new approaches to making in the field of Emergent Digital Practices.
 - to what extent does the Project successfully carry out the stated goals and objectives.
 - to what extent are the ideas in the Project rigorously researched.
 - to what extent has the Project supporting paper covered and cited related ideas from the past.
 - to what extent does the supporting paper further unpack the ideas of the Project.