

# FAQ for Seniors 2023

## **When is the senior thesis due?**

Monday May 1<sup>st</sup>. All theses must be uploaded to Thesis Central by **5pm**.

Watch for an email that instructs you how to upload the PDF of your thesis to the central system. Allow at least 30 minutes to upload your thesis. Time stamped in Thesis Central is the time the upload is complete, not the time you started. Theses will be downloaded and sent to your advisor and second reader. Do not email your final thesis them. You will know who your second reader is prior to the due date. Your second reader is also an examiner at your Comp Exam.

## **How many copies do I need?**

Please check with your adviser and second reader to see if a hard copy is required.

## **What is the wording of the pledge, and where does it go?**

At the end of your thesis, you must write the following sentence and sign your name: "This thesis represents my own work in accordance with University regulations."

## **What if I am getting a certificate?**

If you are getting a certificate, and your thesis satisfies a program requirement, please add at the bottom of the title page that the thesis was done for EEB and the relevant program.

## **Do I put that statement about copyright?**

No. Please do not put that statement. It is expressly wished that you do NOT put that statement, contrary to everything you hear from other students.

## **Do I need to include a copyright symbol anywhere?**

No. According to the Bono Copyright Act of 1978, you have copyright even without the little mark.

## **Is there required formatting for the title page?**

No.

## **What about acknowledgments and credits?**

After the title page, include a dedication page if you like. Please credit your funders on this page.

## **Are there any other requirements as far as formatting?**

No. Just use common sense. Make it readable. You've turned in scads of papers by now. You know how to do it.

## **Do I have to participate in Discovery Day?**

Yes, it is required of all seniors. You will be considered for departmental prizes based on your posters and your presentation at the poster show. Posters are also displayed at Class Day for family and friends to enjoy.

## **When is Discovery Day?**

Wednesday, May 3rd. This event is in conjunction with the HMEI. Details will be sent to you. Plan on standing by your poster most of that afternoon.

**Planning the poster.**

Information on how and when to submit your poster will be announced in the spring. Formatting details and poster examples will be distributed.

**What is the senior comprehensive exam like?**

It is an oral exam that lasts about one hour. Your adviser and the second reader will ask about your thesis and about what you learned in your EEB courses. Your examiners will have a list of what departmentals you took. They will not have your grades.

**Should I have a copy of my thesis with me?**

Yes! Take a copy with you. Know it inside and out.

**Please say a bit more about the comps.**

Comprehensive exams last about an hour. They are oral. You cannot take notes in with you. You will be questioned by your adviser and your second reader. Part of the exam will be thesis defense. Part of the exam will be questions relating to the material you learned in your departmental classes.

**Will I be asked abstruse questions?** No. Will you be asked mildly difficult questions about orgo? Likely not. Will you be asked questions that seem posed merely to embarrass and stump you? No.

The best advice I can give you is something Dan Rubenstein said, "Go over the "talking points" of the lectures, i.e., the main themes and ideas discussed."

**When do the comps take place?**

This year they will be held May 10<sup>th</sup> and May 11<sup>th</sup>. Do not make any travel plans until after you know exactly when your exam is scheduled.

**When will I know when my comps are?**

You will get a schedule, which will include the name of your second reader as soon as it is finalized.

**What is Class Day all about?**

The morning is given over to your graduating class. There is a speaker on Cannon Green, and you wear your beer jacket if you like. The afternoon is devoted to departmental gatherings.

EEB's Class Day begins at 2:30 p.m. in Fine Hall Collaboration Hub. Your posters will be on display for your parents/friends/et al. to view. The EEB faculty will be there, so you can introduce your advisor to your guests. The Chair will make a short speech congratulating you and then hand out prizes. There are a variety of prizes, some based on your academic work, and some based on your presentation during the poster show. We'll take a class picture.

It's garden-party casual, and it's a lot of fun. Feel free to wear your EEB T-shirt or your beer jacket. A class photo will be taken as well.