

*The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences*  
*Committee on Graduate Studies*

Call for nominations for the

**2020-2021 Outstanding Thesis/Research Project Awards**

The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences' Committee on Graduate Studies has established two Outstanding Thesis/Research Project Awards. Each award carries a \$750 stipend. One awardee is selected from among Summer and Fall graduates and a second from among Spring graduates. For more information and profiles of recent recipients, please visit <http://coga.ku.edu/outstanding-masters-thesis-and-research-project-awardees>.

**Eligibility:**

Students must be nominated by their thesis or research project advisor with the endorsement of either the Director of Graduate Studies or the Chair of the department.

**Nomination Instructions:**

Departments are strongly encouraged to select no more than one nominee for each cycle of the award. However, multiple nominees from a single department will be accepted if a department determines that more than one student truly warrants the nomination. In these cases, a separate letter is required for each nominee. Letters must be explicit about the relative merits of each.

Each nomination must include the following:

1. A letter of support prepared and signed by the student's advisor and endorsed by the Director of Graduate Studies or Chair of the department. The letter should address the following award criteria:
  - The overall quality of the thesis or research project (e.g., research design, organization of material, clarity of writing, interpretation of findings)
  - The methodological rigor and/or innovation of the thesis or research project
  - The significance and/or originality of the thesis or research project to the field: Why is the work "outstanding" by disciplinary standards? The thesis or research project should be described so that an audience outside of the field can understand the significance.

The letter may also address the following, as appropriate:

- The trans-disciplinary/interdisciplinary nature of the research
  - Resulting publications, presentations, and performances (or promise thereof)
  - Receipt of departmental honors or other awards
2. An abstract of the thesis or non-thesis project
  3. An electronic copy of the thesis or research project document. Print copies will not be accepted.

**Deadline and Nomination Procedure:**

Nomination packets **must be submitted as one PDF** online using the form on the [COGA website](#). Nominations may be submitted **any time before the deadline**. To be considered for the award granted to Spring 2020 graduates, nominations must be received by **noon (12:00 p.m.), Friday, September 11, 2020**. To be considered for the award granted to Summer/Fall 2020 graduates, nominations must be received by **noon (12:00 p.m.), Friday, February 26, 2021**. **Late nominations will not be accepted**. If you have questions or need more information, please email [coga@ku.edu](mailto:coga@ku.edu) or call 864-4201.