Project Title

by
Student Name

A thesis presented to the Honors College of Middle Tennessee State University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for graduation from the University Honors College

December 2011

Type Project Title Here

Type Student Name Here

APPROVED:

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Type Advisor's Name Here
Type Department Here

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Type Dept. Chair Name Here
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Type Honors Council Rep Name Here
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Dr. John R. Vile
University Honors College Dean
OR
Dr. Scott Carnicom
University Honors College Associate Dean

THESIS TIMELINE
(Sample 1)

4/5 – 4/19	Create permission forms and revise test instruments.
4/19 – 5/3	Submit revised test instruments to IRB and get changes approved (turn around from IRB office is 1 day). Prepare copies of permission forms to send home with children.
5/3 – 5/17	Get permission from parents of children being tested, prepare copies of test materials.
5/17 – 5/31	Train graduate students (from PSY 7530 – The Psychology of Reading and Reading Development) and research assistants to deliver tests to children. Check to be sure all testers have research ethics credentials on file with the office of compliance (IRB) – have testers trained with online course, if not.
5/31 – 6/10	Make final preparations for testing.
6/11 – 6/25	Collect data in Murfreesboro city schools summer reading camp.
July	If insufficient ELL data is collected in June, this month allows for a backup plan to collect ELL data from other Murfreesboro ESP sites and/or the elementary school at Saint Rose Catholic Church.
7/5 – 7/19	Initial data analysis. Work on literature review as needed and prepare initial outline of the discussion section. Contact authors of figures used in introduction for permission to reproduce in the thesis.
7/19 – 8/2	Make final revisions to methods section and appendices.
8/2 – 8/15	Downtown
8/16 – 8/30	Enter data in Excel and SPSS. Calculate means, prepare graphs, initial draft of results section.
8/31/ - 9/13	Complete data analysis and finish the initial draft of the results section.
9/13 – 9/27	Write the discussion section.
9/27 – 10/11	Continue writing and editing, consult with committee members about revisions.
10/11 – 10/25	Revisions.
10/25 – Due Date	Final revisions and submission.

THESIS TIMELINE
(Sample 2)

February 18th:	Proposal Draft Due
	Continue compiling secondary sources, complete any necessary revisions to proposal
Mid to late March:	Revisions to final proposal due after committee meeting. Continue researching and reading secondary sources
Mid-April:	Complete annotated bibliography of secondary sources. Begin working on first chapter of thesis
Mid-May:	Complete first draft of Chapter 1 of thesis on "*Ligeia*" and "*The Fall of the House of Usher*"
Early June:	Finish revisions and edits of Chapter 1
Mid-June:	Complete first draft of Chapter 2 of thesis on "*MS Found in a Bottle*" and "*A Descent into the Maelstrom*"
Early July:	Finish revisions and edits of Chapter 2
Mid-August:	Complete first draft of Chapter 3 of thesis on "*The Narrative of Arthur Gordon Pym*"
Early September:	Finish revisions and edits of Chapter 3
Mid-September:	Complete introduction and conclusion of thesis
Early October:	Final revisions and edits of complete thesis
November 1st:	Final thesis due
Mid-November:	Thesis Defense
Last Day of Class:	Final revised thesis due

THESIS TIMELINE
(Sample 3)

SPRING 2010

The steps in scheme I have already completed, and the structure has been verified using NMR. Step one in scheme 2 has also been carried out in the lab to get a mixture of isomers.

March 22 – April 4:
I will begin separating the mixture of isomers of the cyclopropyl ketone using HPLC. After some of the isomers have been separated, I will run an NMR on the compounds to verify that they are the cyclopropyl ketone compounds.

April 5 – 18:
I will continue to separate the cyclopropyl ketone isomers. I will then use small samples of the separated cyclopropyl ketone to carry out the reduction of the ketone to the alcohol.

April 19 – end of the semester:
I will finish separating the cyclopropyl ketone isomers.

SUMMER 2010

I will use the summer to continue doing background research on the topic, expand my bibliography, and begin writing the thesis.

FALL 2010

August 30 – September 12:
I will continue to carry out the reduction of the rest of the cyclopropyl ketone. This will create two more isomers from each cyclopropyl ketone isomer. I will purify these isomers with column chromatography. I will then begin separating these isomers and use NMR to confirm the compound structure.

September 12 – 26:
I will continue to separate the isomers, and begin adding on different amino acid derivatives to the left side of the compound to create different analogs. I will begin purifying these analogs, and verifying their structures with NMR. I will finish up separating the isomers.

September 27 – October 10:
I will continue to add on different amino acid derivatives to create different analogs. I will continue to purify these compounds and verify them.

October 10 – 24:
I will finish up purifying these analogs and taking NMR of them.

October 25 – 31:
I will finish up writing the thesis and begin preparing for the defense.

November 1:
I will turn in my thesis.

THESIS TIMELINE
(Sample 4)

Since the success of this creative project requires me to fulfill several components of the design quickly and efficiently, I have developed a schedule which will allow me to remain organized throughout the entire process.

The written component of this creative project will consist of background research highlighting the steps and justification for the digitally animated short based on a review of pertinent literature. The literature review will include a brief historical overview of animation and transition to digital animation; examples of modern digital animation; and the art of digital animation. The method will be explained: choosing the story; interview with the author; choosing the style or "look" of the current project; digital animation techniques; voice casting, acquisition, and sound editing; and overall editing.

1. Mid February – Obtain rights for story
Since the story is intellectual property, I was required to contact the owner of the story in order to obtain his permission to use it for my purposes. I have already contacted the owner and received his permission to use his story with the stipulation that I send him a copy of the project when it is completed.

2. Late February/Early March – Develop/refine script based upon story
Using the original story as a base, I will modify the dialogue and actions of characters to fit into my timeframe. Additionally, I will describe in detail the use of props and the movement of cameras and characters in order to facilitate the development of a storyboard later. Once the script is completed, I will present it to my advisor in order to receive his input and possible corrections or improvements. I will also begin on the literature review during this period.

3. Mid-Late March – Visual design
I will begin with the design of the three characters, making detailed sketches from many angles to obtain a sense of scale and proportion between both the characters and their environment. After I am satisfied with the design of the characters I will make conceptual drawings of both the basement and garden settings, making sure to note important color palette choices and lighting styles. Additionally, I will develop a story board to assist me with the future animation of my characters. After these have been polished to my liking, I will present them to our advisor for his input.

4. Early/Mid April – Record voice actors
This process should take no longer than a week. I will recruit my voice actors for one of two days and obtain quality recordings of all of their characters' dialogue. I will then spend a few days correcting any imperfections in the sound such as audio scratches or pops. After the audio has been sufficiently improved I will meet with Marc to play through the entire audio track and receive his input.

5. Late April – Character Design
Using my sketches as a starting point, I will develop the three characters using the Autodesk Maya software. In addition to their physical proportions, I will also be designing any and all textures that they will require at this point, such as clothing patterns and skin complexions. These will be developed using Photoshop. After the models have been successfully created and textured, I will add skeleton rigs to the models and create test animations in order to refine the characters' personalities. I will then present my work to my advisor for any corrections or improvements that could be made.

6. May – Set Design
Following the successful design of my characters, I will move on to the design of the two sets. Using my sketches as a base, I will model, texture, and light the sets. I will also place cameras within the scenes at angles which I believe will be the most useful for me during the rendering process. I will take the finished product to my advisor for advice on camera placement and lighting.

7. June – Animate
Using the storyboards I have previously developed, I will place and animate my characters, props, and cameras within my completed sets. Once the animations are completed, I will present them to my advisor for feedback.

8. Early July – Rendering
Following the animating process, I will begin to render the visual aspect of the movie. Rendering is a time consuming process, and depending on the visual complexity of the film may take up to a week or more to complete. Following a successful complete render, I will show the completed visual component to my advisor for feedback. I will continue to work on updating my literature review, and start writing the method section.

9. Mid/Late July – Sound Design
Using my sound recording software, I will record real-life sounds using found objects in order to add realism and believability to my visual components. For sounds that I will not be able to record live, I will use the software to digitally create them. After the sounds have been created, I will place them in sequence and synchronize them with the visual component. I will then play both the visual and audio components side by side for my advisor in order to improve or correct any errors.

10. August – Composing/Finalization
After rendering out both the visual and sound components, I will composite the two together using After Effects, making sure to add final touches such as credits and scene transitions. I will then take the finished product to my advisor for any additional comments or concerns.

11. September – Distribution
This final stage will consist of me. Additionally, I will enter the short film in one or more juried competitions with the hope of receiving recognition outside of the collegiate system for my work.

12. October – Written Component of Project
I will complete the written component of my project at least one week prior to the deadline so my advisor can review it and/or suggest revisions and still allow time to meet the deadline.