

1. Describe your progress on your thesis thus far.

Writing: Introduction, Background, partial Literature Review, partial Methods

Data: coding news articles, collected data on six factors (waste quality and quantity, economics, environmental impacts, technology, politics, and social opinion)

2. Describe the reason(s) for not completing your thesis by this quarter's deadline.

Due to the threat of COVID-19, Governor Inslee issued a statewide "Stay Home – Stay Healthy" Order on March 23, 2020, which prohibits social gathering of any kind and prevents all non-essential businesses from conducting business.¹ This has prevented me from conducting qualitative interviews with city officials, a significant portion of my data collection, due to uncertain schedules.

3. Provide a detailed plan for completing your thesis during the next quarter.

With this extension I will be able to reach out to interviewees, conduct interviews (over the phone or via Zoom), code and analyze all of my data, and write the remaining sections of my thesis.

My proposed extension timeline for Fall Quarter 2020:

Request for Extension - *Friday, August 14th*

Submit First Draft of Thesis to Thesis Reader - *Friday, November 20th*

Submit Final Draft of Thesis to Thesis Reader - *Friday, December 18th*

Request to Present Thesis - *Friday, November 13th*

Present Thesis - *December 7-11th*

1. Jay Inslee, Proclamation by the Governor, Amending Proclamation 20-05, Stay Home — Stay Healthy, March 23, 2020, Governor.wa.gov < <https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/20-25%20Coronavirus%20Stay%20Safe-Stay%20Healthy%20%28tmp%29%20%28002%29.pdf> > (accessed April 14, 2020).

Request to Extend Thesis Research

Graduate Program on the Environment
The Evergreen State College

Graduate students who require additional time to complete their thesis work may request an extension for the Summer or Fall quarter immediately following the Spring Thesis Workshop. The extension must be requested by the student and approved by the reader and the MES Director. Starting in 2017, students who are approved to continue work on their thesis will be signed up for a one-quarter extension and pay an extension fee of \$500.

If the student does not complete the thesis by the end of the requested quarter, it may result in the student receiving No Credit for their thesis and the student being withdrawn from the program. Reader: Please attach any further stipulations for thesis completion.

I, Gretchen Helpenstell, request an extension to complete my thesis in (choose only one quarter):

 Summer Quarter 2020 X Fall Quarter 2020

I also understand that I must pay the \$500 fee to extend my thesis work for one quarter.

I have read the information outlined in the MES Student Handbook about the services I can use at Evergreen while I am a thesis extension student.

I have attached my answers to the questions below to this form.

1. Describe your progress on your thesis thus far.
2. Describe the reason(s) for not completing your thesis by this quarter's deadline.
3. Provide a detailed plan for completing your thesis during the next quarter.

Approved: _____
Thesis Reader Date

Approved: _____
Director Date

