

SECOND YEAR PAPER

- The Second Year Paper will be an original piece of research which is written in the form of an article to be submitted to a journal for publication. It is hoped that, with sufficient revisions, all papers will be of publishable quality.
- The Second Year Paper advisor and reader must be Sociology faculty members with graduate faculty status. Faculty from outside of the department who have graduate faculty status may be part of the committee as additional committee members.
- Students will work with their faculty advisor to develop a topic during their first year. At the end of the student's first year in the program, they will be required to submit an **Approved Topic Form**, which must be signed by the advisor. This form is due on the last day of the spring semester.
- Students will need to submit an approved "**Prospectus**" to the Graduate Office by no later than October 16th of the second year. The Prospectus should be a minimum of 8-10 pages in length and should include
 - a brief statement of the question to be addressed and rationale for why it's worth studying (who cares?)
 - a conceptualization which situates the paper in an appropriate literature, and a statement of the contribution of the research (what's new here?)
 - a brief analysis plan (what will I do?)
- Students should meet regularly with their Advisor and Reader to develop the Prospectus, and once it is approved, the Advisor will submit the Prospectus along with an Approved Prospectus Form to the Graduate Office.
- Students will be required to submit their approved final draft of the Second Year Paper no later than May 10th of the second year.
- Students can choose to enroll for 3 credits of independent research (SOCY799) to be taken during the second year.
- Students will be encouraged to build on work they have already completed, such as a course paper or a master's thesis written before joining the UMCP Sociology Department. The goal is for students to gain experience developing an independent project which contributes to the field of Sociology and to produce a publishable-quality journal article. It is expected that the entire draft of the paper will be no longer than about 40 pages.
- Students will be required to present their paper to the department at the end of the spring semester of their second year. These presentations will be approximately 15 minutes in length, with time at the end for questions.

2nd Year Paper: Recommended and Required Deadlines

Monday, May 15, 2023 <i>Required</i>	Submit approved topic form with advisor's signature to the Graduate Office
Monday, September 25, 2023 <i>Recommended</i>	Submit prospectus to Advisor and Reader
Monday, October 16, 2023 <i>Required</i>	Submit the approved prospectus form with signatures of the Advisor and Reader to the Graduate Office
Friday, March 1, 2024 <i>Recommended</i>	Turn in completed draft of paper to Advisor and Reader
	Schedule a meeting with Advisor and Reader to discuss changes (leaving enough time for changes to be completed and approved ahead of presentations)
Monday, April 1, 2024 <i>Required</i>	Submit working draft to the Graduate Office
	Submit title and abstract of the paper to the Graduate Office (efloyd@umd.edu) in preparation for the 2 nd Year Presentation announcement.
April 2024, exact dates TBD <i>Required</i>	Presentations will begin in ASY1101, 12:00pm-1:00pm <i>*Order of presentations TBA</i>
Friday, May 10, 2024 <i>Required</i>	Submit final paper and the approved final paper form with signatures from Advisor and Reader to the Graduate Office.