**Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Rubric**

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| **Criterion** | **HIGH PASS** | **PASS** | **LOW PASS** |
| Interdisciplinary Awareness | The thesis demonstrates consequential research in relation to its specific focus that articulates innovative connections across disciplinary boundaries, incorporating methodologies and/or perspectives from differing disciplines, while expertly and critically engaging with scholarship from other fields | The thesis demonstrates significant research in relation to its specific focus that articulates meaningful connections across disparate disciplines, while engaging appropriately with methodologies, perspectives, and/or scholarly arguments from differing disciplines | The thesis demonstrates adequate research in relation to its specific focus that reveals limited engagement with complementary disciplines, perspectives and/or methodologies, remaining largely or entirely within a single disciplinary perspective or approach |
| Disciplinary Foundations | The thesis showcases exceptional knowledge of paradigmatic authors, works, discourses, theories, data, research methods, and/or perennial arguments in the student’s concentration, exhibiting insightful engagement with both the breadth and depth of their field | The thesis showcases substantial knowledge of paradigmatic authors, works, discourses, theories, data, research methods, and/or arguments in the student’s concentration, exhibiting knowledgable engagement with both the breadth and depth of their field | The thesis showcases satisfactory knowledge of paradigmatic authors, works, discourses, theories, data, research methods, and/or arguments in the student’s concentration, exhibited acceptable but uncritical engagement with the breadth and/or depth of their field |
| Historiography & Analysis | The thesis analyzes an extensive range of varied academic works, primary sources, and/or creative writings; it critically interrogates the sources’ contexts and examines the sources’ pertinence to the thesis argument | The thesis analyzes an ample range of varied academic works, primary sources, and/or creative writings; it aptly considers the sources’ contexts, potential biases, and connections | The thesis analyzes an insubstantial range of academic works, primary sources, and/or creative writings and/or displays limited awareness of the sources’ contexts, potential biases, or connections |
| Methodologies | The thesis creatively and thoughtfully interweaves a mix of relevant analytic, immersive, and/or creative techniques that together offer critical and exemplary insight into the topic | The thesis knowledgably deploys relevant analytic, immersive, and/or creative techniques that offer apposite insight into the topic | The thesis uses analytic, immersive, and/or creative techniques in a partially facile or undeveloped manner that do not advance insight into the topic |
| Creative Writing only: Creative Work | The creative work is markedly original, includes a distinctive authorial voice, and could be published immediately in a top-tier professional periodical | The creative work is innovative, includes a clear authorial voice, and could be published with some revision in a top-tier professional periodical | The creative work is somewhat derivative, includes a not yet fully developed authorial voice, and could only be published in a top-tier professional periodical with significant revision |