**Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering**

Thesis Plan with Advisors (TPA)

1. First and Last Name **Click to enter your name**
2. Curriculum Number **Select Curriculum**
3. Expected Graduation Date **Month** **Year**
4. Primary Degree **Select Degree**

Secondary Degree (optional)

1. Thesis Advisor **Click here to enter text**
2. Co-Advisor(s) **Click to enter text or delete prompt if not applicable**
3. Second Reader **Click to enter text or delete prompt if not applicable**
4. Thesis Specialization **Select Topic**
5. List two 4xxx level courses

in Specialization **Click here to enter text**

1. Thesis Classification Level **Classification**
2. Preliminary Thesis Title **Title**
3. Anticipated Funding

Requirements **Enter requirements or delete prompt if not applicable**

If yes, funding provided by **Enter or delete prompt if not applicable**

1. Human Subjects Research **Select No or Yes**

If yes, a Human Subject Determination Request Form must be filled out and signed by the advisor. For more information and forms click [here](https://my.nps.edu/web/research/irb-home).

*Continue answering questions “N” through “S” on the following page.*

By signing this thesis plan, I have read, understood, and agreed to follow the NPS [Academic Honor Code](https://my.nps.edu/documents/109948171/110107065/NPSINST+5370.4D+-+ACADEMIC+HONOR+CODE/b29167a0-7924-4668-9cd0-a08351c7cd54) (10 Oct 18) and instructions of [Thesis Processing Office.](https://www.nps.edu/web/thesisprocessing)

Student Signature Date

**Approved by**

Thesis Advisor Date

Co-Advisor(s) Date

Second Reader Date

Academic Associate Date

Program Officer Date

Chair Date

1. **Research Questions and Objectives**

Identify the primary research question and subsidiary research questions. The primary research question should be broad enough that it covers the entire specturm of the research activity. Subsidiary research questions subdivide the primary research question into manageable research segments. This should be a very explicit statement of the questions the research will seek to answer. While the questions may be redefined later as the research progresses, the initial objective should be made specific.

1. **Discussion of Topic**

Describe the main thrust of the study, what areas will be specifically investigated and what areas will be excluded; put boundaries around the study; identify what the study will be (e.g., a computer simulation, an experiment, an electronic design and implementation, a system study); discuss any limitations of the study.

1. **Preliminary Chapter Outline**

Identify preliminary chapter headings and provide brief disucssion of chapter content.

1. **Benefit of Study**

State the contribution expected from your research efforts, what individuals or organizations will use the results of your thesis and what problems or issues you expect to address and resolve.

1. **Literature Review and Prelminiary Bibliography**

Provide a list of representative materials consulted during preliminary literature search. This list should include references to the problem or issue to be studied, prior thesis work, literature references, or other sources of information. The final bibliography will probably be more extensive. Use a standard and complete citation format.

1. **Milestone Dates**

The target dates represent successive stages of the project. You will not be held strictly to this schedule; rather, it is a means of conveying when you expect to meet major milestones of the study. Review the due dates in the Python thesis dashboard, then reverse engineer from the date of final thesis submitted to chair to determine the dates of accomplishing the following activies.

1. Literature Review
2. Construct Research Approach
3. Conduct Research and Travel
4. Analyze Data
5. Draft Thesis
6. Final Thesis Submission Signature