Prospectus:

The dissertation prospectus should be 15-20 pages long, including a bibliography.

**MELEC graduate seminar requirements:**

- Students must take at least three graduate courses (including conference courses) taught in or primarily engaged with their primary Middle Eastern language.
- Each MELC student is required to take at least one graduate seminar with each of the three primary MELC instructors (Blake Atwood, Tarek El-Ariss, and Karen Grumberg) to ensure adequate exposure to the literature and culture of the Middle East on a broad regional level, and to allow students an acquaintance with the faculty most likely to serve on their dissertation committees.

**Theory requirement:**

Each MELC student is required to take two problem-driven courses (courses primarily engaged with theoretical issues rather than with national/linguistic concerns). Unless otherwise specified/approved by the student’s supervisor, one of these courses must be CL 385 or CL 390 (whichever is most relevant to the student’s research interests).

**MELEC Salon:**

In lieu of a MELC proseminar, students are required to attend monthly meetings centered on the presentation of a student paper or research project. These meetings are intended to allow students to share and discuss ideas and to strengthen the sense of community among MELC students, regardless of the language(s) or nation(s) on which their research is focused.