

Are you a Producing student?

If so, YOU NEED THIS INFORMATION for your thesis film.

At your Midpoint Review, you will present the script to be used for your thesis, but...

The **script for your thesis film** must be endorsed by the **MPT Studio** *before your Midpoint Review*. (Note: an endorsed script does not guarantee an approved Midpoint Thesis Proposal.)

Then, at your Midpoint Review, the Midpoint Review Committee will either **approve** your Midpoint Thesis Proposal, **not approve** your Midpoint Thesis Proposal, **OR** ask you to **resubmit** it in three weeks with specific modifications.

Naturally, the ideal result is an approval. That is why we have instituted MPT Studio endorsement process for you, so that you may work from a strong script.

Here's the basic process:

1. You submit a script to the MPT Studio.
2. You meet with the head of the Producing Track, Curran Engel, who will give you feedback on the script. Executive Director of MPT, James Egan, will also be at this meeting, and will give you story notes on the script from the Studio.
3. You (with the writer) use this feedback to improve the script and resubmit it.
4. The Studio endorses the new version of the script.
5. You attend your Midpoint Review with a script that the Committee is likely to approve.

What is the MPT Studio?

The MPT Studio is comprised of faculty in the MPT and WRI departments who review and endorse scripts for thesis films. (They are also involved in approving story ideas, in certain courses, before they can be turned into short film scripts.)

The Studio's goal – and that of the endorsed script process (detailed on the next page) – is to give your project a vastly improved chance of being approved at the Midpoint Review. The goal of the Midpoint Review is to ensure that you have a script worthy of your thesis production.

How do you get a script endorsed for your thesis project?

1. At least **four weeks before your Midpoint Review**, send an email to: mptscripts@academyart.edu with the following:
 - a. Your name and phone number
 - b. The screenwriter's name and email address
 - c. Genre and logline of the script
 - d. Attach the **script**, as a PDF file, to the email.
 - e. Attach the completed **Short Film Script Submission Form** to the email.
 - f. Include detailed information on your **availability** to meet with the head of the Producing Track, Curran Engel. (Online students can set up a call or Online Office meeting.)
 - i. You are required to meet with Mr. Engel to discuss your script.
 - ii. This meeting must take place prior to your Midpoint Review.
 - iii. The earlier this meeting occurs, the more opportunity you'll have to implement the changes recommended by the MPT Studio to assure your script gets endorsed.
 - iv. You will not be able to enter your Midpoint Review until this meeting has occurred and the script is endorsed.
2. After you send the email detailed above, the MPT Studio will review the script, and may contact you with some follow-up questions. You will also be contacted about the date and time of your meeting with Curran Engel.
3. The meeting with Mr. Engel will occur; you will receive notes from him and from the Studio, *which you will need to address for the script to be endorsed.*
4. You submit a revised version of the script to the Studio.
5. You will receive notification of whether the script is endorsed or not. This generally takes about 1-2 weeks.

But where do you get a script in the first place?

Right now* there is one source from where you may obtain a script for your thesis film. You are required to work with a screenwriting student (or students) to get the script.

- **Get a script from a fellow AAU student.**
 - **TIP:** You should always be networking with your classmates and working on their student projects in order to build your network.
 - **TIP:** You can contact students or instructors from the following courses, where short film scripts are written: MPT 233, MPT 266, MPT 619, MPT 629.
 - **TIP:** You can set up a project using the Academy's new *Student Project Collaboration* tool, and indicate you're seeking a writer or script for your thesis project.
 - If you aren't familiar with this tool, we have created a brief demo for you here: <https://live4.academyart.edu/p19qak7cbth/>
 - **NOTE:** This method could be very time-consuming, so if you decide to use it, it is recommended that you begin at least a full semester prior to your Midpoint Review.

**We are also creating a new website where you will have easy access to a pool of scripts that have already been fully approved by the MPT Studio, meaning that these scripts have already undergone an extensive development process and will definitely be approved at the Midpoint Review. You will be notified when this website is available for you to use. In the meantime, you may visit the MPT Office at 466 Townsend to peruse these fully approved scripts.*