



INDIANA UNIVERSITY
THE UNIVERSITY GRADUATE SCHOOL

Esther L. Kinsley Master's Thesis Award

Purpose: The Esther L. Kinsley Award was established through a bequest to the Indiana University Foundation by Esther L. Kinsley, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Indiana University. She taught civics, history, and economics at Shelbyville High School for 40 years. According to plans developed by faculty committees and approved by the Graduate Council, each degree granting program of The University Graduate School may nominate one "truly outstanding" Master's thesis for consideration by the Awards and Financial Aid Committee of the Graduate Council. The committee will consider such criteria as originality, documentation, significance, accuracy, organization, and style.

Eligibility Criteria: Master's students must have received a Master's degree from The University Graduate School during the previous academic year (July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009).

Nomination Process: Nominations may be made by a Director of Graduate Studies or Departmental Chair. Each department may only nominate one Master's thesis. If an academic unit has a "truly outstanding" thesis, the Director of Graduate Studies or Chair is encouraged to place it in nomination by submitting the following to The University Graduate School:

- Letters of support from **three** members of the research committee (A list of the questions which the Awards and Financial Aid Committee will consider when awarding the Kinsley award follows). The members of the research committee are invited to address these issues in their nominating letters;
- A non-technical 1,000 word abstract which can be easily understood by all of the members of the Awards and Financial Aid Committee (who come from a wide variety of different disciplines spanning the humanities, social sciences, and sciences);
- An electronic copy of the thesis (will not be returned)

Award Value: \$1,500

Nomination Deadlines:

Student Deadline: You need to have all materials turned into your **department** by **Friday, October 2, 2009.**

Department Deadline: All material needs to be turned into The University Graduate School by **Friday, October 16, 2009.** The material must be submitted as one document by email to: Yvonne Dwigans, Fellowship Coordinator, ylivings@indiana.edu, 812-855-8852.

**Questions to be considered by the
Awards and Financial Aid Committee
for the Esther L. Kinsley Master's Thesis Award**

- **Characteristics of the Research.** How important is the subject treated in this study? How extensive and how original is the material collected by the author? Does the study present an original claim or thesis? How effectively does the author demonstrate this?
- **Contribution to Team Research.** If the thesis is the result of a group effort (i.e., in a research laboratory), to what extent are the data and arguments presented in this study due to the author?
- **Application of the Results.** To what extent could the theory presented in the study be extended beyond its present applications? How much revision is necessary before the study could be published? What portions of it have already been published or accepted for publication?
- **Construction of the Study.** How would you evaluate the grammar, spelling, and syntax; the clarity of expression; and the general style of the dissertation?
- **Limitations of the Study.** In your opinion, how could this study be improved?



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Esther L. Kinsley
Master's Thesis Award Nomination

Name: _____ **DOB:** _____ **Email:** _____

University I.D.#: _____

Current Mailing Address: _____

Department: _____

Major: _____

Graduate GPA: _____

Please note: These nominations will automatically be considered for the MAGS Thesis Award. If you do not wish to be considered for this award, please contact our office, 812-855-8852.