INSTRUCTIONS FOR WRITING THE THEORETICAL MA-THESIS PLAN (for passing 5 credits)

By Annamari Vänskä

1. Title, your name and student number

The title relates to the MA-project's scope and should not be a general description. For example; if you are planning to investigate the history of the suit, titling your work 'Suit' would be too general. The title should have a real connection to what you are aspiring to accomplish in your thesis.

2. Abstract and keywords

This is a short summary of your research. At the end of the abstract, include five keywords i.e. words that you think will be most important in your MA-thesis.

3. Table of contents

Table of contents shows the different chapters of your MA-thesis.

4. Introduction: A clear explanation of your aims and questions

Describe what you set out to do in your MA-thesis. For example: you want to work with the concept and changes in the concept of 'masculinity' and how these changes are visible in the changes of the suit. Describe, how and why you chose to investigate the concept of masculinity through the suit; how the suit represents changes in masculinity historically; and how your research will contribute to the existing field of fashion.

5. Description of previous research

Describe e.g. designers who relate to your own research topic. Describe how it will direct and support your own research process. Include images of these sources.

6. Description of theoretical research

Describe the theoretical sources that directed and supported your research. Describe what you will gain from the literature and how it will help you to think about and advance your own chosen theme and research.

7. Description of research materials and research methods

Describe what kind of data you will be studying (e.g. historical sources, designer's work, visual material). Describe your research methods which you will use to analyse your research data.

8. Conclusion

Describe, analyse and reflect upon what the outcomes of your research will be. Reflect, how it will contribute to the existing research and how the theme could be taken further in the future. This

part is the strongest statement of your thesis. Describe how your research will reflect your creativity as researcher.

9. References

References lists all the books that you have cited in your text. Put them in alphabetical order. Always ensure that in-text citations and entries in the References are consistent.