Students may choose to pursue one of the following three options for their final Exit Interview Process for the M.A., MEd. (French and Spanish), and MALC (French, German, and Spanish):

1. *Portfolio (available for the three programs)*

 a. The student chooses a committee comprised of three professors who will help her/him assess the *exit portfolio*, comprised of three research papers written in the target language for graduate classes to be revised for the portfolio.
 b. The student revises and expands upon the three course papers chosen, in consultation with his/her committee members. Committee members should be given at least two weeks for requested critical feedback.
c. This process generally requires one or two semesters, depending on the needs and preparedness of the student.
d. On a pre-established date (see below), the committee meets with the student, who will explain the process of writing and revision, as well as her/his interest in the topics chosen. The committee will then ask questions and make comments, in a process typical of a thesis defense. All communication during this meeting will be in the target language.
 e. The committee will then discuss the quality of the portfolio and the student's performance, offering final recommendations for revision and preparation for submission to the Office of Graduate Studies if the project has been approved. If more in-depth revisions are required, committee members will make suggestions and work with the student to complete the requirement.
f. In no case should the portfolio defense be scheduled later than **November 15** (for Fall graduation), **April 15** (for Spring graduation) or **July 20** (for Summer graduation). *It is the student that is responsible for confirming the date for the exit portfolio graduation and for ensuring that the papers and any requested revisions are delivered to the committee members on time*. For more details, see Departmental Graduate Handbook on the Department website.

2. *Original research paper (available for the three programs)*

a. The student will work with one or two professors in the process of writing an original research paper (minimum length: 25 pages) on the topic of their choice in the target language, related and deemed appropriate to their field of study, and approved by their advisor.
b. For review of the paper, the student will choose a committee comprised of three professors whose fields are related to the paper topic.
c. The timeline for this process is one or two semesters, depending on the needs and preparedness of the student.

Points d, e and f of the *exit portfolio* process also apply to the *original research paper*. Because of the deadline requirements (see point f), communication with potential

committee members to confirm their availability and preparation (topic choice, initial research) should start before the end of the preceding semester when the student wishes to graduate. For more details, see Departmental Graduate Handbook on the Department website.

3. *Thesis option* **(6 credits of LAN411 are taken in place of seminar credits. Pre-approval required) (available only for students in the MA program)**

a. The student will sign up for 6 credits of independent study by which s/he will pursue a 50 page research paper on the topic of their choice in the target language, related and deemed appropriate to their field of study, and approved by their advisor.
b. For review of the paper, the student will choose a committee comprised of three professors whose fields are related to the paper topic.
c. The timeline for this process is one or two semesters, depending on the needs and preparedness of the student.

Points d, e and f of the *exit portfolio* process also apply to the *thesis defense option*. Because of the deadline requirements (see point f), communication with potential committee members to confirm their availability and preparation (topic choice, initial research) should start before the end of the preceding semester when the student wishes to graduate. For more details, see Departmental Graduate Handbook on the Department website.