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# GUIDE TO THE PRESENTATION OF THESES

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# UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS AND NUMBER OF COPIES

The University Calendar provides regulations regarding the presentation of theses. <http://calendar.massey.ac.nz>

For theses worth 90 credits or more, follow the instructions below.

## Masterate

Students may leave all pre- and post- examination printing requirements to the university. A one-off charge against the student's account will be made to cover printing costs. Submit via MyMassey:

- A digital copy of the thesis
- Completed form [RF7: Copyright Form and Declaration Confirming Content of Digital Version of Thesis](#)
- Completed form [RF6 Certificate of Regulatory Compliance](#)

If a student wishes to arrange the printing of the thesis personally, they may do so. In this case, submit two spiral bound copies, one digital copy, and the completed forms RF7 and RF6 to:

Examinations  
Massey University  
Private Bag 11-222  
Palmerston North. 4442

After passing your examination and making any revisions required, submit one hardbound copy and the revised digital copy with emendations to the Examinations address given above.

For more information on this process, and to download the required forms, please visit the Postgraduate/Masterate Study/[Thesis submission and publishing](#) page.

## Doctoral

Submission for examination is completed through the Student Portal [https://smsportal.massey.ac.nz/sitsvision/wrd/siw\\_lgn](https://smsportal.massey.ac.nz/sitsvision/wrd/siw_lgn). Upload a PDF copy to the Application to be Examined form. Two securely bound print copies, spiral or hotmelt, are also submitted to the address below. The student must arrange the printing of the thesis personally, as the Graduate Research School does not print doctoral theses.

Creative and performing arts theses should be submitted in an appropriate format, as specified by the College of Creative Arts. If such theses are text-based, a digital copy should also be submitted. See Digital Copy (p. 13).

## Where to Submit

	<i>In person</i>	<i>Post</i>
<b>Manawatū</b>	Graduate Research School, Research & Enterprise, Courtyard Complex.	Graduate Research School, Research & Enterprise, Private Bag 11 222, Palmerston North 4442, New Zealand.
<b>Albany</b>	Massey Contact Office, Room 1.42, Quad A.	Massey Contact, Quadrangle A Building, Private Bag 102904, North Shore Mail Centre, Auckland 0745, New Zealand.
<b>Wellington</b>	Student Central Block 4 Level A	Student Central, Block 4 Level A, Private Bag 756, Wellington 6140, New Zealand.
<b>Distance</b>	To any of the locations above	Graduate Research School, Research & Enterprise, Private Bag 11 222, Palmerston North 4442, New Zealand.

You will be issued with a receipt via email.

After examination and emendations have been made:

1. Two hardbound copies of your final approved thesis must be delivered to the Graduate Research School.
2. The following should be uploaded to the [Library](#). The GRS will receive notification once your upload has been completed.
  - a. One PDF file containing your full thesis. Where applicable the [DRC16 Statement of Contribution](#) form for each publication in your thesis should be included in the appendices.

- b. A completed [Copyright and Digital Declaration form](#) along with any copyright permissions you have obtained.
- c. Your [citation](#). You should have both versions of your citation ready to enter directly into the submission form.

## **Storage and Availability of the Thesis**

The Library receives one bound print copy, and an electronic copy. The digital copy will be included in the institutional repository, Massey Research Online (<http://mro.massey.ac.nz>), the open access digital archive which stores the research and scholarship of Massey University. The bound print copy is securely housed in the Library vault and may be consulted in the Library under supervision but is not available for loan.

## **Theses Worth Less Than 90 Credits**

Theses of fewer than 90 credits are not required to be lodged in the Library. Some theses may be accepted, in digital format only, depending on grade and credit level.

Theses and dissertations shall, unless the University Librarian approves otherwise, conform to the following requirements.

## **ORDER**

### ***A. The Preliminaries***

- Title page
- Abstract
- Preface and/or acknowledgements
- Table of contents
- List of illustrations, tables, etc.

### ***B. The Text***

- Main body of the work
- Footnotes

***For many theses the section may be in this order:***

- Introduction
- Literature review
- Materials and methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion

Give the chapters meaningful titles containing words relevant to your thesis. This makes it easier for potential readers to find it when searching online.

### ***C. The Reference Material***

- Bibliography
- Appendices
- Index

# FORMAT and DESCRIPTION

## ***Title Page***

The title page text should be laid out as follows:

- Title of the thesis centred in the top third of the page.
- Degree, subject and campus details centred in the middle third of the page.
- Author's name and date centred in the lower third of the page.

Please refer to the example below for wording

[Title]

A thesis [or dissertation, etc.] presented in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree [or diploma, etc.] of

[name of qualification]

in

[subject]

at Massey University, [campus name, e.g. Albany, Manawatū],  
New Zealand.

[Author's full name]

[Year]



## **Year**

The year the thesis reached its final version, including any emendations required by the examinations process.

## **Abstract**

A short abstract (not exceeding 350 words), suitable for publication, shall be bound in each copy of the thesis submitted.

## **Preface and/or Acknowledgements**

The preface may describe briefly the scope and purpose of the research. Persons or institutions acknowledged are usually only those who have contributed to the content of the thesis. The extent of their assistance should be indicated. The acknowledgements should also include a statement indicating, if relevant, that approval for the research has been obtained from the appropriate University Ethics Committee for the experiments described in the thesis.

## **Table of Contents**

The table of contents lists all significant sections in the order they appear and includes page numbers.

## **List of Illustrations, Tables**

This is a listing of all illustrative material, photographs, figures and/or tables, in the order they appear, with page numbers.

## **Footnotes**

Footnotes are used for acknowledging quotations and sources of facts, or for elaboration of a particular point. They are usually numbered consecutively through each chapter and should be detailed at the foot of each page or at the end of the chapter in which they occur.

## **Bibliography**

This should include works cited in the text and footnotes, as well as those of more general significance. Consistency in style of entry is essential; refer to the Style Guide for your chosen style and consult your supervisor. Style guides may be held by the Library, or available on the web.

## **Appendices**

Appendices include material which applies to the thesis as a whole or to a particular chapter, e.g. questionnaires, data sheets, etc. Their function is to keep the text uncluttered and reference to them should be made at the appropriate

place in the text. If raw data on which the research is based is included, it should be part of the appendices. Where material is extensive, a CD-ROM may be used.

### ***Index***

This is a detailed alphabetical listing of the subjects, people, places, etc. referred to in the thesis. An index is optional but can greatly enhance ease of use.

## **THESES WITH PUBLICATION**

Please refer to the Graduate Research School's advice on [theses with publication](#) and the section on Copyright below. The Library recommends seeking copyright permission from journals at the time of submission and acceptance rather than post publication.

## **COPYRIGHT**

You should read carefully Massey University's [Copyright information for students](#) (especially the section "Using Images") and ensure that your thesis complies with those guidelines. Copyright of a thesis usually resides with the author and is governed by the Copyright Act 1994. Unless you state otherwise, the Library may copy all or part of your thesis and provide it to another institution for the purposes of research and private study.

You may assert your moral right to be identified as the author of the work in a statement to this effect on the verso of the title page.

### ***Third Party Copyright***

Your thesis may include material where you are not the copyright holder, or not the sole copyright holder. This material will usually be either

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- Material (such as photographs, drawings, entire poems) belonging to another party, of which you reproduced the entire work or more than the proportion allowed by the [Copyright Act 1994](#). **Note that this includes diagrams and other datagraphics as these are considered entire works.**

If you wish to include such third party content in your thesis, you will need written permission from the copyright holder.

### ***Who is the Copyright Holder?***

- For **books, book chapters, and journal articles**, the publisher holds copyright.
- For **reports**, the issuing body holds copyright.
- For **internet resources**, the author or website owner usually holds copyright.

For the formats listed above, check the relevant websites for copyright statements and requirements.

- For **audio and visual material (including sound recordings, games, software, video)**, the copyright holder can vary. Look for copyright statements to identify who to contact.
- For **privately or non-commercially printed books**, the author holds copyright. Look for contact details in the book or use directories or electoral rolls.

### ***When Seeking Permission***

When writing to copyright holders, include the following information:

- your name
- the name of the institution where you are studying, i.e. Massey University
- the degree you are completing
- your thesis topic
- the name of the work you wish to use, how much you wish to use and how you wish to use it. Include full reference details.
- a request for permission to make it available online in an open access institutional repository.

You can find a template for a copyright permissions letter in Appendix 1 of Tony Millet's [Copyright guidelines for research students](#).

You should keep copies of permissions granted. See Appendix 2 of the *Copyright guidelines for research students* for a sample copyright permissions log.

## **Frequently asked questions**

***I've published various journal articles that make up part of my thesis – can I include these?***

You will need to check whether the journal publisher(s) allow these articles to be placed in an online institutional repository. The Copyright Transfer Agreement (CTA) you signed when the article was accepted should include this. If not check the journal on Sherpa-ROMEO (<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>) to see if they have a general policy.

***I've checked, and I can only post the pre-print (the submitted article before any peer-review) version.***

Include copies of the pre-prints as a separate file. They will be included in the digital copy along with bibliographic references to the published material.

***I've checked but I can't see anything helpful either in the CTA or Sherpa-ROMEO.***

You'll need to write to the publisher yourself and ask for permission. Include the information given above, and make sure that it's clear that the article will be made available as part of your thesis, and that it will be publicly available in an institutional repository.

***My thesis includes photos of various art works – do I need to get copyright permission for these?***

Yes. If the photos first appeared in a book, please contact the publisher of the book in the first instance. If you took the photos of the original artworks and the creator is alive, seek permission directly. If the creator died less than 50 years ago, the works are still in copyright, and permission must be sought from the creator's estate.

***Can I reproduce a diagram or figure from another publication?***

Only with the permission of the copyright holder, as diagram or figures are considered to be complete works. They are included in the definition of Artistic Works under the Copyright Act.

***I've tried my hardest and I can't track down the copyright holder OR I have, but they have not given me permission.***

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**Further information**

Copyright is complex and knowing what is and isn't covered by copyright is not always straightforward. If you are unsure, consult Bruce White, Massey's Open Access and Copyright Advisor, email [b.d.white@massey.ac.nz](mailto:b.d.white@massey.ac.nz).

## EMBARGOING THESES

Theses should be publicly available unless there are good grounds for restriction of access. Students should read Massey's [Grounds for Embargo Policy](#). The most common grounds are to avoid:

- disclosure of commercially sensitive information.
- disclosure of personal or private information.
- disclosure of research before the author of the thesis has had reasonable opportunity to publish all or part of the thesis.
- disclosure of material that has been provided on the condition that it not be disclosed.

If you wish to embargo your thesis:

- Complete the form: *Application to Embargo a Thesis*. This can be downloaded from the [Doctoral forms and guidelines](#) page.
- The application must be completed and approved before the thesis is bound, and a copy of the application bound into all thesis copies submitted. This application should be placed immediately before the title page.
- In the case of the full digital copy of an embargoed thesis, the author, title, abstract and metadata will still be publicly accessible through Massey Research Online, (the University's digital archive), while the embargo is in place. Please do not include sensitive information in the thesis abstract. If you have concerns, please discuss them when you submit your embargo application to the Graduate Research School, Research & Enterprise.

## LAYOUT and PRODUCTION

### Paper Copy

#### ***Cost of Preparation***

If the Graduate Research School is not arranging the printing of your thesis (see above), the entire cost of the preparation of a thesis for presentation is normally borne by the individual concerned.

## ***Paper***

The paper should be good quality, A4 size (e.g. 100 gsm Bond). Where possible, illustrations and photographs should be incorporated into the electronic version of the document before printing or reproduced on paper of a similar size and quality to the main text. If photographs need to be mounted, a heavier grade of paper is recommended, (e.g. 136 gsm).

A4 100 gsm Bond paper is available from Massey University's Printery, please contact Printery (phone 06 356 9099 extn 84888 or email [printeryhelp@massey.ac.nz](mailto:printeryhelp@massey.ac.nz)) for current prices.

## ***Print***

Pages may be printed on one or both sides, provided legibility is ensured. For doctoral examination, double line spacing is recommended for text, and the final copy may have 1.5 or double line spacing. Masterate students should follow the recommendations of their particular College. Margins should be at least 4 cm on the inner side (to allow for the binding), 2.5 cm at top and bottom and 2 cm on the outer side. Font size should be neither too large nor too small. A size of 10 - 12 point is recommended.

## ***Underlining & Italics***

These are used for emphasis and for special terms. Titles of books and periodicals are normally in italics.

## ***Figures***

Photographs, maps and graphs should be numbered in Arabic numerals. Text references are to be made in brackets and should precede the figure.

Where they are not the author's own work, the source of maps, tables, photographs, etc. should be acknowledged, and copyright permission obtained. Refer to the [Copyright section](#) above.

For reproduction on to A4 paper, all graphs, photographs, etc. are best prepared in actual size, allowing for margins. The maximum size which can be handled by the Printery, at the Manawatū campus, is A3 (420 mm x 210 mm). Large maps, tables, charts, etc. should be folded so that they are well back from the fore edge and top.

If you need any further information, consult the appropriate Printery staff, <http://printonline.massey.ac.nz>.

## ***Pagination***

Preliminary pages, beginning with the title page, should have page numbers in lower case Roman numerals. The main text of the thesis should have page numbers in Arabic numerals. Page numbers should be located in a consistent position throughout the text.

Inserted maps, diagrams, etc. should bear a specific identification of their proper location in the text (e.g. facing p.7 or between pp.15 and 16).

### ***Printing / Copying***

Printing or copying can be done by Massey University's Printery; apply for prices. The Yellow Pages also contains a list of firms who offer copying services <https://yellow.co.nz>.

For a very good quality print finish you should submit your copy to the Printery as a PDF. Please note that a minimum of 2 days is required by the Printery for printing to be completed.

### ***Binding***

The sheets should be overcast and glued. They must not be stapled.

The thesis must be hard-bound, and cased in cloth, buckram or rexine.

The only lettering to appear on the spine should be the author's name and initials, to be in capitals (in the format A. B. Smith), running from top to bottom, and the year of the completion of the thesis. The cover of the thesis should include the author's name and initials, the title of the thesis and the completion date.

Massey's Printery can arrange hard cover binding, or use Google or the Yellow Pages ([yellow.co.nz](https://yellow.co.nz)) to find a local book binder.

## **Digital copy**

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The thesis should consist of **a minimum number of files** as this reduces conversion time, and the risk that the files are compiled in the wrong order or missed completely. Ensure that the file is not security protected or encrypted. This is so that an abstract can be extracted and file properties may be added.

### ***\*Text Files***

*Text files must be in either Microsoft Office Word compatible, or Adobe PDF format, as below. If in Word, the Library will reformat to PDF for uploading to MRO. The documents must not be secured in any way, as this prevents the repackaging of the document for MRO.*

### ***Supplementary Thesis Material***

*Any supplementary thesis material must be in a standard file format. Example accepted file formats are:*

- *For Data: Excel*
- *For Audio: OGG, MP3, MP4*
- *For Video: AVI, MPEG, WMV, MP4*
- *For \*Digital Sheet Music (Scores): SIB (Sibelius), Finale files. Please note that digital sheet music files (such as Sibelius or Finale files) must be provided in a PDF format as well.*

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