

Introduction

Bowling Green State University master's theses and doctoral dissertations are directly available through the world wide web via [OhioLINK](#). In addition, dissertations are available for purchase by scholars worldwide from ProQuest Information and Learning (PQIL). Theses and dissertations reflect on their authors, on the faculty who oversee the work, and on BGSU's programs of study. It is imperative, therefore, for both the scholarship that goes into your thesis or dissertation and its final presentation to be of the highest quality.

The BGSU Thesis and Dissertation Handbook is designed to be used in conjunction with a professional writing style manual selected with your advisor's approval, in accordance with your department/program's guidelines. The BGSU Thesis and Dissertation Handbook provides information on Graduate College regulations and requirements pertaining to committee formation, topic approval, manuscript format, and related matters. **(Because these requirements—and style manuals—change over time, you should not use earlier theses or dissertations as guides to style and format.)** It is your responsibility, and that of your committee, to ensure that your manuscript submitted electronically to the Graduate College is well-written, conforms to the requirements of this Handbook and your style manual, and is free from spelling, grammatical, and typographical errors.

General Information

Manuscript Terminology

At Bowling Green State University, the word "thesis" is used to identify the document prepared to satisfy the requirements for the Plan I master's degree. The word "dissertation" is used to identify the research document prepared to satisfy the requirements for the doctoral degree.

The Committee

You and your department's graduate coordinator should work together to select an advisor (also called "major professor") and a thesis or dissertation committee. If you are a doctoral student, the Graduate College will appoint an additional member to your committee to represent the Graduate Faculty. This representative, commonly referred to as the "outside member," will be from a department other than that of your field of study.

You may elect to have a faculty member from a different academic area on your committee, but s/he is considered an additional "regular" member not the "outside" member. The minimum size for a thesis committee is two (the advisor and one additional member), and for a dissertation committee, four (the advisor, two additional members, and the outside graduate faculty member). Although there is no maximum committee size, keep in mind that large committees are cumbersome and may make it more difficult to complete the process.

The Basic Steps

Once you have passed any preliminary program examinations, the following basic steps are needed to complete your thesis or dissertation. This is an outline only: consult the Graduate Catalog for details on other University or departmental requirements.

Topic Approval

1. Identify your thesis or dissertation advisor and the other members of your committee.
2. Decide on a topic through discussions with your advisor and committee members.
3. Optional: enroll in the Personalized Research Consultation Service (PeRCS) program at the library to receive assistance in searching for and locating relevant materials.
4. Secure departmental approval of the topic, according to the department's procedures.
5. Secure Graduate College approval of the topic and committee membership by submitting the **Topic Approval Form** with signatures of your committee members and departmental graduate coordinator.
6. Receive notice of the name of the Graduate Faculty Representative for your committee.

Research and Writing

1. First meeting with your committee: The purpose of this meeting is to discuss such concerns as whether you will meet regularly with the entire group or just with your advisor, whether your advisor will review the draft text before it is submitted to the entire committee, and whether you will submit work chapter by chapter or only once the manuscript is completed.
2. Establish a regular meeting schedule with your advisor (and other committee members, if desired).
3. Do the research.
4. Submit the initial draft(s) of the manuscript to your advisor and committee for review.
5. Revise the manuscript based on their input and submit a final version to the committee far enough in advance of the final examination/defense date to allow a thorough reading. (Allow 3-5 weeks.)

Submission of Manuscript (following approval and final examination)

1. Thoroughly proofread the manuscript.
2. **ETD Approval/Submission** form verifying the final oral defense as well as the manuscript approval is to be submitted to the Graduate College with a copy of the Title Page and Abstract attached. This form must include the signatures of all members of your committee and be received in the Graduate College by the posted deadline of the term you plan to graduate.
3. You file the final error-free version electronically to **OhioLINK** by the posted deadline date. The posted deadline date can be found on the [Graduate College web site](#). (Usually 6-8 weeks prior to the end of the term.)

Instructions for the Master of Music Degree in Composition

Graduate students majoring in music composition submit an original musical composition as their thesis. All aspects of the composition must conform to specifications established by the College of Musical Arts. At the discretion of the faculty, an oral examination may substitute for a performance of the composition. You submit the approved score/parts for the work to **OhioLINK**. The manuscript must contain an appropriate written introduction, an abstract, other explanatory information concerning the composition, and pertinent bibliographic documentation. These must conform to the format and style requirements contained in this Handbook. If the composition is performed, a recording, conforming to specifications established by the College of Musical Arts may be included with the electronic manuscript submitted to OhioLink

Getting Started

Selecting a Topic

Choosing a good topic or problem is the key to a successful thesis or dissertation. A good topic has three significant features: it (1) addresses an important unresolved issue in the discipline, (2) retains the student's interest over the course of the study and beyond, and (3) can be studied in a reasonable period of time. You should discuss potential topics or problems with your graduate coordinator or advisor at the earliest possible date. A **Topic Approval Form** describing the selected topic must be signed by your advisor, all committee members, the departmental graduate coordinator, and the Dean of the Graduate College.

Master's students must have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 at the time of topic approval, while doctoral students must have a minimum GPA of 3.2. Master's students must receive topic approval at least ten weeks prior to the commencement at which they receive the degree. A student working toward the doctorate must pass a preliminary examination before submitting a topic for approval and being admitted to candidacy. Candidacy for the degree must be achieved at least six months before the degree is conferred. When your topic has been approved, you and your committee will be notified by the Dean of the Graduate College.

Doing the Study

Research is a highly individual process. But, in all cases pursuing the approved topic, keeping orderly records or notes, and consulting on a regular basis with one's advisor are essential. While it is permissible to pay for certain mechanical tasks—the services of a statistical consultant, or assistance in copy editing the final draft—you, the student, are responsible for doing all basic research and writing. The purchase of prepared research reports or the writing of text by another person without proper credit in the final document is inconsistent with the ethics of research. As stated in the BGSU Graduate Catalog:

'Academic honesty is the central value of an academic community. It is expected that graduate students will neither engage in nor facilitate cheating (using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, or study aids), fabrication (falsification or invention of any information or citation), or plagiarism (representing the words or ideas of others as one's own) in their academic work. The Academic Honesty Policy, which is found in the Student Affairs Handbook, contains strict sanctions, including expulsion, for all forms of academic dishonesty.'

The Writing

Before doing any writing or formal note-taking, you should select (1) a style manual, (2) the type of computer on which the manuscript will be written and data recorded, and (3) the software that will be used. Making these decisions beforehand, and adhering to the requirements of the style manual and this Handbook from the outset, will eliminate the need to reformat or convert the manuscript from one computer/word processing program to another once it has been written.

Selecting a Style Manual

A variety of style manuals are available that set standards for grammar, bibliographic format, word choice, etc. Some of the most commonly used are The ACS Style Guide (American Chemical Society), the CBE Style Manual for Biological Journals, the Chicago Manual of Style, the MLA Handbook (Modern Language Association), A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses and Dissertations (Kate L. Turabian), and the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. **Some departments or professors require the use of a specific style manual;** others leave the choice up to the student. It is important to choose a style manual appropriate for your area of study: MLA, for example, is ideal for humanities

scholars, but its required spelling out of all numbers under 100 makes it inappropriate for those in the social or natural sciences.

Before doing any writing, you should work with your graduate coordinator and advisor to select a style manual—making sure it is the most recent edition—and familiarize yourself with its contents. This will eliminate the need for time-consuming style conversions once the manuscript has been completed. The thesis or dissertation must conform strictly to the specifications of this Handbook and the style manual selected. **In instances where the Handbook and the style manual differ, follow the Handbook regarding matters of form (required preliminary pages, margins, etc.) and the style manual regarding matters of style (grammar, table formatting, bibliography/notes, etc.).**

Selecting Software

When selecting word processing and other software, it is important to ensure beforehand that it will meet your specific needs. For a scientific study, for example, you might ask: Does this word processing program have a built-in table generator, or will I need to use a separate program? Can it insert a horizontally-printed page into the middle of an otherwise vertical document? Are the word processor and database program compatible?—that is, can I easily insert a table generated by one into the text on the other? It is critical to learn the basics of any program before typing the manuscript, e.g., how to set page numbers and margins, lay out tables, change spacing, etc.

The final version of the manuscript must be converted to PDF format for submission to OhioLINK. Please visit the [ETD web site](#) for further information on converting and submitting the final, approved manuscript.

Parts of the Manuscript

A thesis or dissertation manuscript has three basic parts: 1.) the preliminary pages, 2.) the text itself, and 3.) the material following the text (bibliography and appendices). The manuscript must be arranged in the order below, even if this order differs from the one specified in your style manual. Templates of these pages and a final checklist are available in [EDT Thesis and Dissertation Handbook web site](#)

Note: An * denotes BGSU mandatory page.

1. PRELIMINARY PAGES

The pages that come before the text or body of the manuscript are called preliminary pages. These must be modeled after the examples shown at the end of this Handbook.

* Title Page

The title must be in all caps and should accurately and concisely describe your topic. Avoid vague beginnings, such as "A Study of..." or "A Report on the Development of..." Do not use abbreviations or acronyms in titles. The date on the title page should be the month and year in which the degree is to be granted.

Copyright Page

Copyrighting your thesis or dissertation is optional. If included, the copyright page follows the title page and is **not** numbered. Copyright information is available from the [Copyright Office of the Library of Congress](#), Washington, DC 20559, or in the Government Documents section of the library.

***Abstract**

The abstract is an essential part of your thesis or dissertation: other scholars will read it to determine whether your manuscript will be helpful to their own research. It must be clear, informative, and concise. The abstract may not exceed 350 words (approximately 1-1/2 pages double-spaced). It is the first numbered page: use a lowercase Roman numeral in the top right corner, "ii" if there is no copyright page and "iii" if there is one. The advisor's name (e.g., "Mary E. Smith, Advisor") must appear between the page heading and the text.

Since the abstract describes a completed study, it is ordinarily written in the past tense, using the third person. It should include the following:

1. **Statement of Problem:** A brief statement of the study's specific objective.
2. **Methods and Procedures:** A brief statement of the research plan and, if appropriate, of the data gathering and/or analysis methods employed, especially if the methods are essential to the interpretation of the results.
3. **Results:** A summary of the major results obtained. In quantitative research, the basic statistical techniques which were applied to the data should be stated.
4. **Conclusions:** The major conclusions derived from the research study, including interpretation of results, basic implications, deductions, etc.

Consult Dissertation Abstracts International for examples appropriate to your discipline. Keep in mind that scholars reading the abstract in DAI will have no context for in-text citations, so avoid these if at all possible.

Frontispiece

Some students choose to personalize their manuscripts with an appropriate quotation or illustration.

Dedication

A dedication page is optional.

Acknowledgments

Acknowledgments serve as a means to recognize and express appreciation to the people who were influential in preparing and completing the manuscript. The Graduate College strongly recommends including an Acknowledgments page, but does not mandate it.

***Table of Contents**

A Table of Contents is mandatory. It must list all chapter/major section headings, the bibliography, and (if applicable) appendices; preliminary pages are not included. Entries are consistently double-spaced, without extra spaces between sections, and each successive level of subheading, if these are included, is block-indented by an additional half an inch. The headings of major sections (chapters, bibliography, appendices) are written in all capital letters. Table of Contents headings must be identical to those in the text, including spelling, wording, punctuation, and capitalization, but should not include word format such as italics or underlining, with the exception of Latin names and book/journal/film/play titles.

Page numbers listed in the Table of Contents must be right-justified. To do this, highlight the body of the typed Table of Contents and insert a right-tab just before the one-inch right margin. Then add a tab between the leader dots and the page number for each Table of Contents entry.

*List of Tables, List of Figures, List of Illustrations, Etc.

If your manuscript contains three or more tables, figures, illustrations, etc., then these must be listed on separate pages following the Table of Contents, formatted as shown in the sample at the end of the Handbook. Word the table or figure headings exactly as they appear in the text.

Preface

A preface is optional. It is used to provide background information such as the motivation for the study and the purpose of the manuscript. If included, it is placed immediately before page 1 of the text.

2. THE TEXT

With the exception of the basic formatting requirements described in FORMAT AND STYLE, below, there are no special formatting requirements for the body of the manuscript. Text should be more or less continuous, without excessive white space between sections or before/after illustrative materials.

Tables, Figures, Illustrations, Etc.

Many manuscripts contain tables, figures, and/or other illustrative materials. The term "Table" refers to data sets, while "figure" refers to graphs, diagrams, drawings, maps, photographs, or charts. All such items are to be inserted in the text near where they are first mentioned or placed together in an appendix at the end of the manuscript. If they are over 4-1/2" in height, including table title heading and any footnotes, they may be given a page of their own after the textual reference. Because of their size, many tables or figures require their placement on the page to be landscape. These pages should be rotated so that the text is consistent with the portrait style pages. This will allow the reader to easily read the material.

Tables, figures, etc., should include a heading, source, and any required footnotes or other explanations. Footnotes crediting an outside source should appear immediately below the table or figure. If a paragraph of explanation is required, it should be single-spaced and placed immediately below the table or figure.

3. CONCLUDING SECTION

Bibliography/References

The bibliography or reference list includes all works cited in the text, as well as sources consulted during the preparation and writing of the manuscript but not actually cited. Dictionary entries are ordinarily not listed. The spacing, indentation style, information given, and arrangement of the works listed must follow the specifics given in your style manual. (The importance of consulting the style manual before compiling the bibliography is illustrated below which shows the same six references as documented in MLA, ACS, and APA styles.)

Modern Language Association (MLA)

Journal Articles:

Author, Allen. "Article Title." Journal
Volume Number (2002): 125-126.

Magazine Articles:

Author, Allen. "Article Title." Magazine
Date Month. 2002: 125-126.

American Chemical Society (ACS)

Journal Articles:

Author, A.B.; Author, C. D. *J.*
Abbrev. 2002, vol, 125-126.

Magazine Articles:

Author, A.B.; Author, C.D. *Magazine*
Abbrev. Month Date, 2002, p.125.

American Psychological Association (APA)

Journal Articles:

Author, A. B. (2002). Title.
Journal, Publication Information,
125-126.

Magazine Articles::

Author, A. B. (2002, Month Day).
Article Title. *Journal, Publication*
Information, 125-126.

Books with Authors:

Author, Allen. Book Title. City: Publisher, 2002.

Books with Authors:

Author, A. B. *Book Title*; Series Name and number; Publisher: City, OH, 2002; Vol.1, pp125-126.

Books with Authors:

Author, A. B. (2002). *Book title*. City, OH: Publisher.

Books with Editors:

Editor, Allen. ed. Book Title. City: Publisher, 2002.

Books with Editors:

Book Title; Editor, A.B.; Editor, C.D.,Eds.; Series Name and number; Publisher: City, OH, 2002; Vol.2, pp 125-126.

Books with Editors:

Editor, A.B., & Editor, B.C. (Eds.).(2002). *Book Title*. City, OH: Publisher

Online Reference Database

"Article Title." Database. Allen B. Author. Vers. 97.1. Day Month (site last updated). 2002. Sponsoring Institution. Day Month (site accessed). 2002
<<http://www.webaddress.com/>>

Online Reference Database

Author, A. A. (if any). Title of Site. URL (assessed date), other identifying information. (No need to include URL of subscription sites).

Online Reference Database

Author, A., Author,B., & Author, C. (2002). Title. *Journal Title*, 5,125-126. Retrieved Date, from <http://www.webaddress.com/>

Online Personal or Professional Site

Author, Allen. Page Name. Day Month (site accessed). 2002
<<http://www.webaddress.com/>>

Online Personal or Professional Site

Not Available

Online Personal or Professional Site

Author, B.A., Author, L., & Author, F. (n.d). Title(chap. 2). Retrieved Date, from <http://www.webaddress.com>

Appendix/Appendices

An appendix is a supplementary item or group of items not placed within the body of the work: it may include tables, illustrations, photographs, figures, charts, graphs, sample questionnaires, and the like. It appears after the Bibliography, and is listed (with an all-capped heading) in the Table of Contents. When previously printed items are included, they should be reduced in size using a high quality photocopier to fit within the Graduate College's required margins.

Format and Style

Margins

All (right, left, top, and bottom) margins should be set at one inch. Use these margins throughout the manuscript. **Text should be left justified only (leave the right margin ragged).**

Page Numbers

Page numbers must be placed in the top right corner. The page number should be set against the 1" right margin and approximately 3/4" from the top of the paper. With the exception of the title page and copyright page, every page of the manuscript must have a page number in the top right corner. The preliminary pages—excluding the title page and copyright page, which are not numbered—are numbered beginning with the lower-case Roman numeral "ii" if there is no copyright page and "iii" if there is one. Page number 1 is assigned to the first page of text.

Spacing

Manuscript text must be double-spaced throughout, without extra spaces between paragraphs, unless otherwise specified by your style manual. The text should be more or less continuous, without hard page breaks between sections (with the exception of new chapters). Each new chapter is to begin on a new page.

Headings

Chapters or their equivalents (e.g., METHOD, RESULTS) are often divided into sections, and sometimes further divided into subsections, each preceded by a heading. Chapter/major section headings are always written in all capital letters, both in the text and the Table of Contents. The format of subsection headings varies by style manual, but it must be consistent throughout the manuscript, and once they have been determined, heading levels for the subsections should not be skipped.

Some style manuals, such as that of the American Psychological Association, require specific formatting for heading levels. Others (e.g., MLA) have no specific requirements, but do not support word-level formatting such as italics or bold type. Check your style manual to see if specific heading formats are required. If not, a scheme such as the APA's would be appropriate:

CHAPTER/MAJOR SECTION: CENTERED UPPERCASE HEADING

First Level: Centered Uppercase and Lowercase heading

Second Level: Centered, Italicized, Upper and Lowercase Heading

Third Level: Left Margin Flush, Italicized, Upper and Lowercase Side Heading

Fourth level: indented by half an inch, italicized, lowercase paragraph heading ending with a period.

Tense and Point of View

A typical thesis or dissertation describes something that has already taken place and, therefore, requires consistent usage of the past tense. The "historical present" is customarily used in the disciplines of English and the humanities: events that have already occurred are described in the past tense and written or audio/visual works in the present tense. In the sciences and other disciplines, the past tense is almost always used. Present and future tense may be used, provided you make it clear that the statement is true at the time it is read or will be true in the future; otherwise, the reader may assume that the material is based purely on your opinions.

A dissertation or thesis is most often a report of a study which has been made in accordance with objective principles, and so is normally written in the third person. Be as objective as possible, using impersonal pronouns ("one," "the researcher") rather than personal pronouns ("I," "we") when these are needed. However, use of the first person is becoming increasingly popular in the humanities and the first person plural in the social and natural sciences.

Quotations

Most style manuals list individual requirements as to the use and format of quotations. If yours does not, use the following rules of thumb: enclose a quotation less than three typewritten lines in length in quotation marks and work it into the existing paragraph. If the quotation is more than three typewritten lines in length, delete the quotation marks and give it its own separate, block-indented paragraph.

Footnotes, Endnotes, and Parenthetical Citations

Consult your style manual to see whether the preferred method for attributing quotations is footnotes (which appear at the bottom of the page), endnotes (which are grouped together at the end of the chapter or manuscript) or parenthetical citations (which appear in the text, immediately after the quote or reference). Use the same method and formatting throughout the manuscript.

Abbreviations, Acronyms, and Symbols

The use of abbreviations, acronyms, or symbols is acceptable provided that proper clarification is given the first time they are used. Except for extremely common examples, proper form includes the term or phrase given in full immediately followed by the abbreviation in parentheses, e.g., "electron volts per molecule (ev/m)." The abbreviation "ev/m" would then be used throughout the manuscript without explanation or parentheses. A preface or appendix may also be added listing all abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols with their meanings.

Foreign Words and Phrases

Except in a thesis or dissertation written in a language other than English, it is customary to underline or italicize words taken directly from a foreign language (including Latin). Certain exceptions are permitted for words that have been completely absorbed into the language, e.g., "etcetera." Consult an unabridged dictionary or your style manual if you are uncertain whether a foreign term has been accepted into common American English usage.

Use of Numbers

Consult your style manual to see whether it dictates using numerals at all times, or spelling out numbers under certain conditions.

Spelling, Grammar, and Punctuation

It is expected that BGSU students will produce theses and dissertations free of errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation. Prior to printing the final copy, run the entire manuscript, including the preliminary pages, reference list, and appendices, through a computer spell-checker. (Do not use Correct All, Automatic, or their equivalent, which can replace unfamiliar or misspelled words with inappropriate substitutes.) Before submitting your thesis or dissertation to the Graduate College, you and your committee should carefully proofread it—using the checklist provided in this Handbook—and make all corrections needed. If you are uncertain about whether your grammar, spelling, and punctuation are correct, you may wish to hire a professional copy editor. See "Professional Assistance in Preparing the Manuscript," below.

Completing the Process

The Final Draft

All manuscripts are to be submitted to the Graduate College electronically via OhioLINK (see [ETD](#) web page). The manuscript must conform to the format and style requirements of this Handbook and your style manual, have no errors in spelling or grammar, and be clearly printed throughout to facilitate microfilming and photocopying.

It is recommended that you use an 11- or 12-point standard font (the same size and typeface throughout), and leave the right margin ragged. Be sure to check the entire manuscript for quality before submitting it to OhioLINK,

Professional Assistance in Preparing the Manuscript

Because the stylistic and grammatical requirements of a thesis or dissertation are so exact, you may find it helpful to hire a professional word processor and/or copy editor. The Graduate College can provide you with a list of local contract workers. Before signing any work agreement, ask the word processor or editor about his or her past experience with theses and dissertations, contact a few of his/her references, and make sure that you understand all charges, deadlines, etc. (Who, for example, is responsible for making any changes to the manuscript in case of error? Is the charge per page, or is there a set fee per manuscript?) Be sure to provide the word processor or copy editor with copies of your style manual and this Thesis and Dissertation Handbook.

Submission to the Graduate College

Students preparing theses and dissertations must submit them electronically via OhioLINK. Please refer to the Graduate College [ETD](#) web page for information on converting your document to PDF format and submitting the final document to OhioLINK.

The final, error free manuscript must be electronically submitted by the [date/time](#) specified prior to the commencement at which you expect to graduate. No extensions to this deadline are granted: if you submit your manuscript after the deadline, you will not graduate until the following semester.

Microfilming and Binding

Since all doctoral dissertations and master's theses will be available on the web through OhioLINK, the BGSU Library will no longer bind electronically submitted manuscripts. The only exception to this is Creative Writing MFA theses. Since these documents will continue to be submitted as paper copies, the manuscripts will still be microfilmed and bound by the BGSU Library for archival purposes. The current fee for this service is \$20.

Please note that **all** doctoral dissertations are forwarded to ProQuest/UMI for microfilming by OhioLINK. The abstract is published in Dissertation Abstracts International and its database, and the dissertation is made available for purchase by scholars throughout the world. Doctoral students may arrange for publication by other means, provided this does not interfere with ProQuest's process. **Master's theses are not forwarded to ProQuest.** The fee for this is set by ProQuest and is currently \$65. These fees will appear on your Bursar bill approximately one month prior to graduation. If payment is not received by the date of graduation, a HOLD will be placed on your record and your final transcript and diploma will not be mailed to you until the issue has been resolved.

Stampers in the Bowen-Thompson Student Union is now offering thesis and dissertation book binding. This is a high-quality hardback bind, with a variety of color covers from which to choose. Cover printing can be done in either gold or black. Please stop by Stampers on the second floor of the BTSU if you have any questions or want to view color cover samples. Stampers can be reached by phone at 419-372-9633.

Another bindery that has an online service is H-F Group-Indiana. You can arrange everything online at <http://www.thesisondemand.com/>, and they do offer rush service.

CHECKLISTS AND SAMPLES

Use our [templates](#) and guidelines to properly format thesis and dissertation preliminary pages. Consult the Thesis and Dissertation Handbook to make sure that the document is formatted properly. Use this following [checklist](#) to determine if you have completed all the necessary parts of the document. Remember to check that pages are numbered properly, if there is no copyright page included, the abstract page should be numbered (ii). Please remember to check all spacing and numbering before submitting the document.

The Microsoft Word templates on the ETD website are formatted using 12 point, Times New Roman. Make sure that your pages meet all spacing and formatting requirements when printed.

A FINAL CHECKLIST FOR BGSU THESIS AND DISSERTATION WRITERS

- I have consulted a current style manual regarding all questions of style.
- All margins are set at one inch.
- The page number is set at approximately 3/4" from the top of the page, along the right margin.
- The manuscript title is written in all capital letters.
- The cover page is formatted exactly as shown in the Thesis and Dissertation Handbook.
- Preliminary pages, beginning with the Abstract, are numbered using lower-case Roman numerals: at iii if there is a Copyright page, at ii if there is not.
- My advisor's name is included on the Abstract page.
- The Table of Contents is consistently double-spaced, without extra spaces between sections.
- Page numbers in the Table of Contents are right-justified, using right-tabs, not spaces.
- Chapter or major section headings are written in all capital letters in the Table of Contents and the text.
- Every chapter or major section begins at the top of a new page.
- Every Table of Contents heading matches its text counterpart for proper level formatting, word choice, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
- The List of Figures, List of Tables, etc. are formatted exactly as shown in the Thesis and Dissertation Handbook.
- Every Figure, Table, etc. heading matches its text counterpart for word choice, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.
- Figures, tables, etc. that have been printed landscape are rotated so the text is going in the same direction as the pages of text on the portrait style pages. The page number appears in the usual upper right-hand corner, facing the reader.
- The text is continuous, or nearly so, without large blocks of white space or page breaks between sections (**with the exception of new chapters**). There are no breaks between individual paragraphs unless this is required by my style manual.
- All quotations have been attributed to their author(s) in the format required by my style manual.
- Block quotations, footnotes or endnotes are formatted exactly as directed by my style manual.
- The full reference list is spaced and indented exactly as required by my style manual.
- Book, journal, chapter, dissertation, and other references are formatted exactly as shown in my style manual.
- I have run the entire manuscript—including the preliminary pages, notes, and reference list—through a spell-checker, using the Manual function rather than Correct All.
- The paper is white and letter-sized (8-1/2" by 11")