Master's Thesis Style Guide

Font, Spacing, and Margin Requirements

Any non-italic font 10-12 points in size should be used. Headings may be larger. For enhanced screen readability, use Arial (10pt), Courier New (10pt), Georgia (11pt), Times New Roman (12pt), or Verdana (10pt) font. For footnotes, figures, citations, charts and graphs, a font of 8 point or larger should be used. Italic type may be used for quotations, words in a foreign language, occasional emphasis, or book titles.

For the sake of readability, it is recommended that the text of the thesis be double-spaced (except for footnotes, long quoted passages, and lists of tables and figures, which are single-spaced). If desired, authors may choose to single-space the abstract and/or thesis manuscript.

Allow one and one-half inches for the left margin and one inch for all other margins. All text, including page numbers, must fit within these margins.

Organization of the Manuscript

The manuscript should be in a format suitable for a publication in your discipline. The following information is provided as a general guideline. Discuss these guidelines with your research advisor.

Pages must appear in the following order:

Title Page

Dedication (optional)
Acknowledgment (optional)
Abstract
Table of Contents (mandatory for theses 50 pages or longer)
List of Tables (optional)
List of Figures/Illustrations (optional)

Main Text
Appendices (optional)

Bibliography/Works Cited

Pagination

All pages except the Title Page (page i) must have a page number. For the preliminary pages (dedication, acknowledgements, table of contents, lists of graphs, tables, and illustrations), use small Roman numerals (i, ii, iii, ...). For the text and appendices (if any), use Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, ...). Remember that page numbers must also appear within the margins specified above.

Title Page

The Title Page must follow the format of the sample below. The author's full legal name must appear on the Title Page, and each copy of the completed thesis must

have two original signatures on the Title Page when presented to Biology Academic Office. Although this page counts as page "i" of the preliminary pages (see below), no page number appears on this page.

A table of contents must be included if the thesis is 50 pages or longer.

Other Requirements

For citations, footnotes, references, and grammar, you may follow the guidelines in the *Chicago Manual of Style*, the *MLA Handbook*, or the appropriate manual in your field of study.

PRACTICAL ADVICE: THE IMPACT OF "POOR RICHARD'S ALMANAC"

ON DOMESTIC HABITS IN THE AMERICAN COLONIES
Author's Name
A THESIS
in
Biology
Presented to the Faculties of the University of Pennsylvania in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science
20xx
Typed Name Supervisor of Thesis
Typed Name Graduate Group Chairperson