

DISSERTATION GUIDELINES

Wordcount

Master of Laparoscopic Surgery – 25,000 words
Master of Science in Addiction Studies – 15,000 to 20,000 words
Master of Science in Biomedical Engineering (Biomechanics) – 20,000 words
Master of Science in Biomedical Sciences (Taught – 20,000 to 25,000; Research – 35,000 to 40,000 words)
Master of Science in Clinical Ethics and Law – 25,000 words
Master of Science in Diabetes Care- 15,000 to 25,000 words
Master of Science in Family Medicine – 25,000 words
Master of Science in Public Health – 25,000 words
Master of Science in Reproductive Health – 25,000 words
Master of Science in Surgical Skills – 20,000 to 25,000 words
Master of Surgery – 35,000 to 40,000 words

The above word count excludes references, appendices and bibliography.

Format

The format of Dissertations and Theses should strictly follow the guidelines available for Electronic Thesis and Dissertation found on the following link:

<https://www.um.edu.mt/library/dissertations/etdguidelines>

Typescript

- (a) Font and Font Size: Calibri 12pt for body of the script and Cambria for Titles
- (b) Spacing: Indent all paragraphs 0.5cm. Double Space for Text and Single Spacing for footnotes.
- (c) Quotations: Quotations of more than thirty words should be single-spaced and form a distinct paragraph without indentation. .
- (d) Margins: Left-hand margin of 3.5cm. Top and right-hand margin of 1.5cm. A top margin of 5cm to be left on the first page of every division, i.e. Chapters, Bibliography, etc. Footnotes should appear at the bottom of the relevant page or after every chapter.
- (e) Quotation Marks. Use single quotation marks throughout, but doubles for a quote within a quote.
- (f) Dates: Use day, month, year without commas: e.g. 25 December 1930. For decades, use 1650s or fifties.
- (g) Textual Reference Numbers. Continuous for each chapter. Use superscript, without brackets, and following punctuation.
- (h) Alignment: Script should be left aligned and not justified.

- (i) Spelling: Follow the Oxford English Dictionary.
- (j) Abbreviations: Consult supervisor. Acronyms should not be overused.
- (k) Pagination: The main text, including the introduction (if any), the bibliography and any appendices of the dissertation shall have Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, 4, 5); the title page, dedication (if any), preface, acknowledgements, table of contents, etc. preceding the main text, shall have Roman numerals (i, ii, iii, iv, v).
- (l) Maps, diagrams, graphs, printed material should be bound with the dissertation, but if this is not possible they should be presented separately in special folders or volumes and numbered.
- (m) Binding: Spiral-bound copies should be presented for examination. Hard-bound copies are to be submitted only once corrections have been made and after the final result has been published.
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