

## THESIS WRITING GUIDELINES

FOR MASTER IN DIVINITY STUDENTS
SAINT ANDREW'S THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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#### I. GENERAL POLICIES

- A. Students are required to submit thesis related to theological studies with at least eighty (80) pages, exclusive of the preliminary pages and appendices.
- B. Students are required to start their thesis writing on the second semester of their second year in the program and must finish it on the second semester on their last year in the program.
- C. Students are required to undergo an oral defense of the thesis; a proposal defense and a final defense (see XVII for the specific schedule). The panel for both defenses shall be composed of 3-4 members, with the Dean as chairperson, the Reader and 1 or 2 members from the faculty or a guest depending on the thesis topic.
- D. Students must comply with the schedules set for thesis output submissions and thesis oral defenses.
- E. Students are required to consult his/her appointed thesis adviser regarding his/her study. The appointed advisers shall assist their advisees in writing their thesis.
- F. Students are required to conform to the notes-bibliography pattern of citation from the latest edition of Kate L. Turabian's "A Manual of for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations" found in the library.
- G. Students are required to submit to the librarian a soft copy of the final copy of the thesis including the preliminary pages and appendices for binding.
- H. The seminary strictly prohibits copying from any work without properly citing the creator of that work.

## II. PARTS OF THE THESIS

Section	Page	Required; optional	
Title Page	No page number	Required	
Preliminary	Approval page	Required	
Pages	Abstract	Required	
(starts with ii-	Dedication	Optional	
Roman page	Acknowledgement	Required	
numbers)	Table of Contents	Required	
	List of Tables	Required if thesis contains tables	
	List of Figures	Required if thesis contains figures	
	Other lists	Optional	
	Executive Summary	Optional	
Section	Page	Required Position	

Main Body (starts with 1- page number)	Chapters I. Introduction (Level 1 Heading 1)	Required	Centered
	Background of the Study (Level 2 heading)	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	Statement of the Problem or Objectives of the Study (Level 2 heading)	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	Statement of Hypothesis (Level 2 heading)	Optional	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	Framework of the Study (Level 2 heading)	Optional	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	Operational Definition/ Definition of Terms (Level 2 heading)	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	Significance of the Study (Level 2 heading)	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	Scope and Limitation (Level 2 heading)	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	II. Review of Related Literature (RRL) (Level 1 Heading 2)	Required	Centered
	Note: All Level 2 headings created for RRL must use pattern used other Level 2 headings of other chapters	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	III. Methodology (Level 1 Heading 3) Note: For Qualitative Research, include Methodology as Level 2 heading under Chapter 1 before the Significance of the Study	Required for Quantitative Studies or Mixed Methods	Centered
	Research Design (Level 2 heading)	Required for Quantitative Studies or Mixed Methods	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	Target Population (Level 2 heading)	Required for Quantitative Studies or Mixed	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left

	Methods	
Instrumentation (Level 2 heading)	Required for Quantitative Studies or Mixed Methods	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	Note: Required for Qualitative Studies using interviews as instrument for data collection	
Validity of the Research Instrument (Level 2 heading)	Required for Quantitative Studies or Mixed Methods	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
	Note: Required for Qualitative Studies using interviews as instrument for data collection	
Reliability of the Research Instrument (Level 2 heading)	Required for Quantitative Studies or Mixed Methods	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
Data Collection (Level 2 heading)	Required for Quantitative Studies or Mixed Methods	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
Data Analysis and Interpretation (Level 2 heading)	Required for Quantitative Studies or Mixed Methods	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
IV. Results and Discussion (Level 1 Heading 4)	Required	Centered

Notes: 1. For Quantitative or Mixed-Method studies, provide Level 2 headings based on the variables of your study and follow the format for Level 2 headings 2. For Qualitative studies, additional headings may be created following the format for the different levels of headings	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
V. Conclusions, Recommendations, Reflection (Level 1 Heading 5)	Required	Centered
Conclusions (Level 2 heading)	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
Recommendations (Level 2 heading))	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
Reflection (Level 2 heading)	Required	Centered Note: For Level 3 headings, flush left
Bibliography (Level 1 Heading 6)	Required	Centered
Appendices (Level 1 Heading 7) Note: 1. Include here the instrument, correspondences i.e. letter of permission to collect data or study, other pertinent attachments needed in the presentation of the thesis.	Optional	Centered

# III.THE THESIS AND THE ORAL DEFENSE (PROPOSAL AND FINAL)

A. The thesis proposal must contain the following and should follow the format specified under Section II of this handbook.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

- A. Background of the Study
- B. Statement of the Problem/ Objectives of the Study
- C. Operational Definition/ Definition of Terms
- D. Significance of the Study
- E. Scope and Limitation

#### II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

#### III. METHODOLOGY

- A. Research Design
- B. Data Collection
- C. Data Analysis and Interpretation

#### IV. BIBLIOGRAPHY

#### V. APPENDICES

\*\*\*Note: for qualitative studies, include methodology under Chapter I before the Significance of the Study

\*\*\* Note: Students may include information needed in the thesis proposal.

- B. The draft of the final thesis must contain all necessary sections needed (see section II).
- C. Outputs must be submitted two weeks before the oral defense (see section XVIII).
- D. Students must prepare four (4) copies of the outputs to be distributed to the panelists and to the adviser.
- E. During the oral defense (proposal and final), students are required to summarize what they have written and present them in a PowerPoint.
- F. During the oral defense (proposal and final), students are also required to wear corporate attire.

## IV. FILE FORMAT, PAPER SIZE

A. The final copy of the thesis which will be submitted for binding should be in .pdf format.

B. The paper size should follow the Letter (US) style (8.5 X11 inches or 215.9 x 279.4 millimeters).

## **V.TYPEFACE**

Section	Normal, <b>Bold</b> or <i>Italic;</i> Case	Style; Size
Level 1 Headings	Boldface; UPPERCASE	
Level 2 Headings	Boldface; Capitalize the first	
	letter of each word except for	
	prepositions and articles not in	
	the beginning	Times New Roman;
Level 3 Headings	Italic type: Capitalize the first	12
	letter of each word except for	
	prepositions and articles not in	
	the beginning	
Content of each	Normal; put in italics words	
heading (Text)	which are needed to be in	
	italics, i.e. dialogues in	
	verbatim, exact words used	
	during interviews, etc.	
Caption of Figures	Boldface; Capitalize the first	
and Title of Tables	letter of each word except for	
	prepositions and articles not in	
	the beginning	

## VI. LINE SPACING AND INDENTION

- A. The default line spacing between texts is 2.0 (Double-space).
- B. Use single space for headings, block quotations, table titles and figure captions and lists of appendices. Also, the following items should be single-spaced internally:
  - certain elements in the front matter, including the table of contents and any list of figures, tables or abbreviations
  - footnotes or endnotes
  - bibliography
- C. Provide a new page for the beginning of each chapter.

- D. Use multiple spaces in between the Level 1 heading and the first Level 2 heading.
- E. Use multiple spaces in between a paragraph and a Level 2 heading.
- F. Use double spaces in between a paragraph and Level 3 heading.
- G. For indentation, use tabs or indents (default 5 spaces) rather than spaces for paragraph.

#### VII. MARGINS

Тор	1.25" (to give space SATS HEADER)
Bottom	1"
Left	1.5" (for binding purposes)
Right	1"
Page Number	.5"

#### VIII. PAGINATION

- A. Page numbers should be visible except for the Title page.
- B. Page number should be on Top right.
- C. Preliminary pages must be in Roman Numeral style.
- D. The paging of the main body of the thesis must use the Arabic numeral style.

## IX. CITATION

- A. SATS follows the "Turabian" style or the notes-bibliography pattern of Chicago style in citing references. You can find a copy the manual at the library (A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses and Dissertations, chapter 16-17).
- B. Thesis outputs must show the footnotes and bibliography of references used following the format indicated in Turabian's *A Manual for Writers*. All references consulted must be reflected both in the footnotes and in the bibliography.

C. Fifty percent (50%) of the references used must be of five (5) years recency. This can be waived for historical studies.

#### X. TABLES AND FIGURES

- A. All figures and tables used in the thesis must be described and discussed.
- B. Place a table or figure immediately after the paragraph where it was mentioned first.
- C. Figures shall be numbered starting with 1. It should be numbered separately from tables. The number and caption should be placed below the figure. The example is shown below.

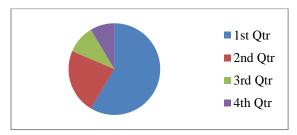


Figure 1. What is the figure all about.

D. Tables shall be numbered starting with 1. It should be numbered separately from figures. The number and title should be placed above the table. The example is shown below.

Table 1. Distribution of Respondents According to their Age

Age	F	%
18-22	50	51.5
23-27	29	30
28 and above	18	18.5
Total	97	100

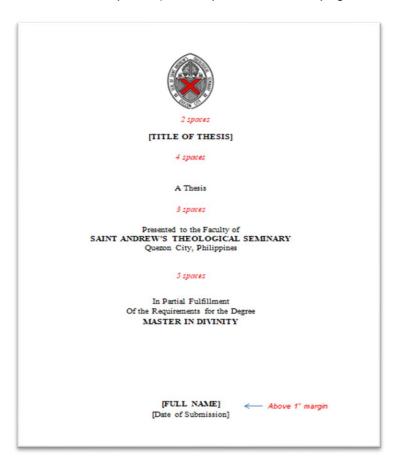
E. Other specifications are mentioned and discussed in Turabian's *A Manual for Writers*.

## XI. BINDING

- A. Students must submit the soft copy of the final thesis at the library on the schedule set for submission for binding.
- B. The binding color for all thesis outputs is red.
- C. The binding and printing cost must be paid upon enrolment.
- D. One copy shall be deposited to the library.

### XII. TITLE PAGE

A. Students must submit all outputs with the title page (except for the submission of concept/ title). A template for the title page is shown below.



#### XIII. APPROVAL SHEET

- A. The final output should have an approval sheet. It should appear after the Title page.
- B. Approval Sheet A must be signed before the final oral defense by the panelists and adviser. Approval Sheet B must be signed as an indication that the thesis is finally approved and passed.
- C. The template of the Approval sheet is shown below.

#### APPROVAL SHEET A

This thesis entitled ["TTTLE OF THESIS"] prepared and submitted by [NAME OF

STUDENT] in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree MASTER IN DIVINITY,

has been examined and recommended for acceptance and approval for ORAL

EXAMINATION.

#### THESIS COMMITTEE

# [NAME AND SIGNATURE OF THE DEAN] Chairperson

| NAME AND SIGNATURE | | NAME AND SIGNATURE | Member | Member

[NAME AND SIGNATURE]
Member
Member

[NAME AND SIGNATURE]
Adviser

Date

#### APPROVAL SHEET B

Approved by the Committee on Oral Examination with a grade of PASSED.

#### PANEL OF EXAMINERS

#### [NAME AND SIGNATURE OF THE DEAN] Chairperson

 [NAME AND SIGNATURE]
 [NAME AND SIGNATURE]

 Member
 Member

 [NAME AND SIGNATURE]
 [NAME AND SIGNATURE]

 Member
 Member

#### [NAME AND SIGNATURE] Adviser

Accepted and approved in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree MASTER IN DIVINITY.

PRESIDENT AND DEAN

Date	

### XIV. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- A. The final output must have an acknowledgment. It should appear after the approval sheet.
- B. The section should not be more than 2 pages.

## XV. ABSTRACT

- A. The final output must have an abstract. It should appear after the acknowledgement.
- B. The abstract should not be more than 2 pages.
- C. The abstract must contain the summary of the study (problem, methodology, and conclusion).
- D. The template of the Abstract is shown below.

[TITLE OF THESIS]
ВУ
[NAME OF STUDENT]
[4 spaces]
ABSTRACT
[4 spaces]
[This study

## XVI. TABLE OF CONTENTS

- A. All outputs submitted should have Table of Contents (except for concept/title submission). In the final output, it should appear after the Abstract.
- B. Table of Contents should include all Level 1, 2 and 3 headings with the corresponding page numbers.
- C. Before the chapters, include the page numbers of the Acknowledgement, List of Tables (if it applies), List of Figures (if it applies), and the Abstract.

#### XVII. COST

Thesis Adviser's Fee	3,000 + 1,000 (start work second
	year second semester)
Thesis Reader's Fee	1,500 + 500 (Grammar check)
Binding	600 (2 copies)
Printing	300
Total	6,900
Note: This does not include honorarium and travel costs for outside	

Note: This does not include honorarium and travel costs for outside panelists (if necessary) and statistician if the thesis is quantitative.

## **XVIII. SCHEDULE**

Submission of Thesis	Friday on the 2 <sup>nd</sup> week of August (Last
Proposals	day of Submission) (1st semester)
Thesis Proposal Oral Defense	Last week of August (1st semester)
Submission of Final Thesis	4 <sup>th</sup> week of March (2 <sup>nd</sup> semester)
Output for Defense (Initial)	
Thesis Final Oral Defense	2 <sup>nd</sup> week of April (2 <sup>nd</sup> semester)
Submission of Final Thesis (Bound and Signed)	1 <sup>st</sup> week of May (2 <sup>nd</sup> semester)

Approved: July 2020