

The uiucthesis2020 class *

2024/10/02

Abstract

Load the uiucthesis2020 class for use with L^AT_EX2e to produce a document that should conform to the format described by the Graduate College requirements [\[1\]](#).

1 The User Interface

This section describes how to use the uiucthesis2020 class to produce a thesis satisfying the format requirements of the Graduate College at UIUC. Note that this is an unofficial template so, while we try to make it as close as possible to the requirements, there is no guarantee it will be accepted as is.

Any modifications, issues or bugs can be contributed back to the project at [\[3\]](#).

1.1 Using uiucthesis2020

To write a thesis, you load the UIUC thesis definitions by loading the uiucthesis2020 class at the beginning of your L^AT_EX document with the `\documentclass` command. For example,

```
\documentclass[edeposit,draftthesis]{uiucthesis2020}
\usepackage{blindtext}
```

The uiucthesis2020 class provides a number of options. These are meant to help with reviewing draft versions of the manuscript. Since the requirements from [\[1\]](#) are fairly strict, there are no options to modify the format.

[draftthesis] The **[draftthesis]** option causes each page to have a header proclaiming the document to be a draft copy along with the current date and time. It also omits the copyright page and adds line numbers to the main matter and appendices for easy reference during review.

[edeposit] Use the **[edeposit]** option if you are depositing your thesis electronically. The differences include a slightly changed page numbering (due to the fact that the committee approval form is not included) and the use of a **oneside** format for the pages.

[doublespacing] Use the **[doublespacing]** option to turn on double-spaced lines. By default the lines are spaced at 1.5 instead.

[forcebottom] Use the **[forcebottom]** option to force the spacing on the bottom margin to be

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exactly 1in. By default, the KOMA-Script package follows standard typography rules and sets the bottom margin to about twice the top margin, i.e. about 2in with the default settings.

1.2 The Title Page

The `\maketitle` command is redefined so that it creates a title page with the correct format for a thesis at UIUC.

`\phdthesis` Use the `\phdthesis` or `\msthesis` to set the correct thesis type. If your thesis is not for a “Ph. D.” or “M. S.”, you can specify your degree with either

`\msthesis`
`\othermasters` `\otherdoctorate{<degree name>}`
`\othermasters{<degree name>}`.

For example, specifying `\phdthesis` is equivalent to giving the command

`\otherdoctorate{Doctor of Philosophy}`.

or specifying individual commands as

`\degree{Doctor of Philosophy} \thesisname{Dissertation}`
`\committeename{Doctoral Committee}`

`\advisor` Use `\advisor{<advisor name>}` or `\adviser{<advisor name>}` to specify the name of your advisor.

`\department` Set your department with `\department{<department>}`. This defines the field your degree will be in, so leave out “Department of”. If there is a minor as well, use the `\concentration{<minor>}` command to set it.

`\college` Define your college with `\college{<college>}`. The default is college is “Graduate College” and should probably not be changed.

`\degree` Use `\degree{<degree>}` to set the degree name, e.g. “Doctor of Philosophy”. This is normally set by the `\phdthesis` macro (and friends).

`\degreeyear` Use `\degreeyear{<year>}` to define the year in which you will receive your degree. The default is the current year.

`\thesisname` Use `\thesisname{<name>}` to define the official name of the the thesis, e.g. “Dissertation”. This is normally set by the `\phdthesis` macro (and friends).

`committeename` Use `\committeename{<name>}` to define the text above the committee list. This is normally set by the `\phdthesis` macro (and friends).

`\committee` Use `\committee{<committee members>}` to specify the members of your committee and their titles as you want them to appear on the title page. Separate members with `\\`. To respect the graduate college guidelines, you must use the full title of each committee members. The committee chair should appear first with the designation “, Chair”. Your thesis adviser should appear second with the title “Director of Research”. See the Graduate College website for details.

`\volume` The `\volume` macro provides nominal support for very long theses that must be broken up into multiple volumes. Use `\volume{<number>}` to specify the volume number (a single arabic numeral). All this macro does is place the word VOLUME with the number you specify on the title page. You have to take care of what appears in each volume. The easiest way to do this is to create two separate source files, one for each volume.

Here’s how to produce an example similar to that in

```

\begin{document}

\title{Coffee Consumption of Graduate Students Trying to Finish Dissertations}
\author{Anne Elizabeth Garvie}


\phdthesis
\advisor{Laurence Strongarm}
\degreeyear{2025}
\department{Food Science}


\committee{
  Professor Lawrence Strongarm, Chair \\
  Professor Joseph Green, Director of Research \\
  Assistant Professor G. L. Foreman \\
  Associate Professor Celia Barrera, Norther Illinois University
}
\maketitle

```

1.3 Colors

The template also defines a list of colors that correspond to the official UIUC Visual Identity Guidelines [\[2\]](#). They are

Primary Colors	Secondary Colors	Supporting Colors
IlliniOrange	IlliniStorm1	IlliniIndustrial
IlliniBlue	IlliniStorm2	IlliniArches
IlliniAltgeld	IlliniStorm3	IlliniHarvest
	IlliniStorm4	IlliniPrairie
	IlliniStorm5	IlliniPatina
		IlliniBerry
		IlliniEarth

1.4 Front Matter

\frontmatter Typically, a thesis might have an Abstract, a Dedication, some Acknowledgments, and a Preface before the Table of Contents. Use the **\frontmatter** command to start this preliminary section of the thesis. The **\frontmatter** command sets the page number of the next page to roman numeral iii (or ii if the **[edeposit]** option is used). (The title page is page i, and the certificate of committee approval, the “red-bordered form,” is page ii.)

abstract (*env.*) The abstract should appear in the **abstract** environment. Normally, this just produces another chapter with **\chapter*{\abstractname}**, where **\abstractname** is “Abstract” (see User Customization below),

dedication (*env.*) A dedication page can be printed with the **dedication** environment. This produces a separate page with the dedication centered horizontally and vertically, with the text in italics.

After this front matter comes the Table of Contents, List of Tables, List of Figures, etc. Use the standard L^AT_EX commands **\tableofcontents**, **\listoftables**, **\listoffigures**, etc., to generate them. In the **uiucthesis2020** format these lists are all single spaced.

symbollist (*env.*) Optionally, these tables can be followed by a List of Abbreviations and/or List

symbollist* (*env.*)

of Symbols. Introduce these with the `\chapter` command. To aid in making these lists, the `symbolist` and `symbolist*` environments are defined in `uiucthesis2020`. These environments produce a two-column list as illustrated below. By default the left column is 1 inch wide but can be specified with an optional argument. In the starred environment, the left column is left-justified, otherwise it is centered. See the example below.

Here's an example of what the front matter of a typical thesis looks like. First comes the Abstract and the Dedication, both of which are optional.

```
\begin{frontmatter}

\begin{abstract}
This is a comprehensive study of caffeine consumption by graduate
students at the University of Illinois who are in the very final
stages of completing their doctoral degrees. A study group of six
hundred doctoral students \ldots.
\end{abstract}

% Create a dedication in italics with no heading, centered vertically on the page.
\begin{dedication}
To Coffee
\end{dedication}

% Create an Acknowledgements page, many departments require you to
% include funding support in this.
\chapter*{Acknowledgments}

This project would not have been possible without the support of
many people. Many thanks to my adviser, Lawrence T. Strongarm, who
read my numerous revisions and helped make some sense of the
confusion. Also thanks to my committee members, Joseph Green,
G. L. Foreman, and Celia Barrera, who offered guidance and support.
Thanks to the University of Illinois Graduate College for awarding
me a Dissertation Completion Fellowship, providing me with the
financial means to complete this project. And finally, thanks to
my partner, parents, and numerous friends who endured this long
process with me, always offering support and love.

% The thesis format requires the Table of Contents to come
% before any other major sections, all of these sections after
% the Table of Contents must be listed therein (i.e., use \chapter,
% not \chapter*). Common sections to have between the Table of
% Contents and the main text are:
%
% List of Tables
% List of Figures
% List Symbols and/or Abbreviations
% etc.

\tableofcontents
\listoftables
\listoffigures
```

If you want a List of Symbols or Abbreviations, you can do so as follows:

```

% Create a List of Abbreviations. The left column
% is 1 inch wide and left-justified
\chapter{List of Abbreviations}

\begin{symbolist*}
\item[CA] Caffeine Addict.
\item[CD] Coffee Drinker.
\end{symbolist*}

% Create a List of Symbols. The left column
% is 0.7 inch wide and centered
\chapter{List of Symbols}

\begin{symbolist}[0.7in]
\item[ $\tau$ ] Time taken to drink one cup of coffee.
\item[ $\mu g$ ] Micrograms (of caffeine, generally).
\end{symbolist}

\end{frontmatter}

```

1.5 Main Matter

`\mainmatter` Begin the main body of your thesis with the `\mainmatter` command. It resets the page number to arabic numeral 1. You can now use any of the commands defined by the the `srcbook` document class to write your thesis.

```

\begin{mainmatter}

% Sample chapter to test margins
\chapter{Introduction}

\Blindtext[6]

\chapter{Methods}

How does all this relate to coffee? We direct the reader
to~\cite{Walker2015} and~\cite{Hager2006}.

\Blindtext[6]

\chapter{Results}

\Blindtext[6]

\chapter{Conclusions}

We conclude that graduate students like coffee.

\end{mainmatter}

```

1.6 Back Matter

`\backmatter` The last few chapters in your thesis should not have chapter numbers, but should be listed in the Table of Contents. These chapters include the Bibliography and the Index. L^AT_EX's `\backmatter` command accomplishes this.

`\bibliography` Use the standard L^AT_EX bibliography commands to create your bibliography.

```
\begin{backmatter}

\bibliographystyle{apalike}
\bibliography{references}

\end{backmatter}
```

1.7 Reference Matter

`\appendix` To switch from the body of your thesis to the reference material at the end, you should use the standard L^AT_EX `\appendix` command. In `uiucthesis2020`, there is also a starred version of this command that eliminates the lettering of the appendices (use if you have a single appendix).

```
\appendix
\chapter{My Appendix}
\Blindtext[6]

\end{document}
```

2 User Customization

`\drafthead` If you don't like the header that the `[draftthesis]` option creates, you can redefine the `\drafthead` command to any text.

`\nocopyrightpage` Unless the `[draftthesis]` option is used, a page with the copyright notice is printed before the title page. If you don't want this page to appear, even in the final version, put the `\nocopyrightpage` macro somewhere in the preamble.

`\bibname` `\bibname` is a standard L^AT_EX macro that contains the title of the reference section at the end of your thesis; "References" by default. Use `\renewcommand` to redefine it in the preamble.

`\abstractname` Like above, but for the abstract. By default, "Abstract".

References

- [1] *Graduate College Thesis Requirements*. <https://grad.illinois.edu/thesis/format>
- [2] *UIUC Brand Guidelines*. <https://marketing.illinois.edu/visual-identity/color>
- [3] *UIUC Thesis Github*. <https://github.com/alexfikl/uiucthesis2020>