1 Introduction

This bundle for LaTeX has two goals:

- 1. Provide students with an easy-to-use template for their Master's or PhD thesis. (Though it might also be used by other types of authors for reports, books, etc.)
- 2. Provide a classic, high quality typographic style which is inspired by some people.

The bundle is configured to run with a *full* MiKT_EX or T_EXLive¹ installation right away and, therefore, it uses only freely available fonts. (Minion fans can easily adjust the style to their needs.)

People interested only in the nice style and not the whole bundle can now use the style stand-alone via the file classicthesis.sty. This works now also with "plain" Lage X.

This should enable anyone with a basic knowledge of $\LaTeX 2_{\mathcal{E}}$ to produce beautiful documents without too much effort. In the end, this is my overall goal: more beautiful documents, especially theses, as I am tired of seeing so many ugly ones.

The whole template and the used style is released under the GNU General Public License.

If you like the style then I would appreciate a postcard:

André Miede Detmolder StraSSe 32 31737 Rinteln Germany

The postcards I got so far are available at http://postcards.miede.de.

Hopefully, this thesis template is done well enough for your needs and does not have too many flaws. So far, a couple of theses have been typeset successfully with it. If you are interested in some typographic details behind it, enjoy Robert Bringhurst's wonderful book.

¹See the file LISTOFFILES for needed packages. Furthermore, classicthesis works with most other distributions and, thus, with most operating systems LATEX is available for.

Important Note: Some things of this style might look unusual at first glance, many people feel so in the beginning. However, all things are intentionally designed to be as they are, especially these:

- No bold fonts are used. Italics or spaced small caps do the job quite well.
- The size of the text body is intentionally shaped like it is. It supports both legibility and allows a reasonable amount of information to be on a page. And, no: the lines are not too short.
- The tables intentionally do not use vertical or double rules. See the documentation for the booktabs package for a nice discussion of this topic.²
- And last but not least, to provide the reader with a way easier access to page numbers in the table of contents, the page numbers are right behind the titles. Yes, they are *not* neatly aligned at the right side and they are *not* connected with dots that help the eye to bridge a distance that is not necessary. If you are still not convinced: is your reader interested in the page number or does she want to sum the numbers up?

Therefore, please do not break the beauty of the style by changing these things unless you really know what you are doing! Please.

1.1 Organization

A very important factor for successful thesis writing is the organization of the material. This template suggests a structure as the following:

- Chapters/ is where all the "real" content goes in separate files such as Chapter01.tex etc.
- FrontBackMatter/ is where all the stuff goes that surrounds the "real" content, such as the acknowledgments, dedication, etc.
- gfx/ is where you put all the graphics you use in the thesis. Maybe they should be organized into subfolders depending on the chapter they are used in, if you have a lot of graphics.
- Bibliography.bib: the BibTEX database to organize all the references you might want to cite.
- classicthesis.sty: the style definition to get this awesome look and feel.
- ClassicThesis.tcp a TeXnicCenter project file. Great tool and it's free!

²To be found online at

- ClassicThesis.tex: the main file of your thesis where all gets bundled together.
- classicthesis-ldpkg.sty: a central place to load all nifty packages that are used. The package has the following options available:
 - backref, which also defaults to false. Activate it if you do want to show in the bibliography on which page(s) each reference was cited. for an example of the default setting.

This should get you started in no time.

1.2 Style Options

There are a couple of options for classicthesis.sty that allow for a bit of freedom concerning the layout:

- drafting: prints the date and time at the bottom of each page, so you always know which version you are dealing with. Might come in handy not to give your Prof. that old draft.
- eulerchapternumbers: use figures from Hermann Zapf's Euler math font for the chapter numbers. By default, old style figures from the Palatino font are used.
- linedheaders: changes the look of the chapter headings a bit by adding a horizontal line above the chapter title. The chapter number will also be moved to the top of the page, above the chapter title.
- tocaligned: aligns the whole table of contents on the left side. Some people like that, some don't.
- subfig(ure): is passed to the tocloft package to enable compatibility with the subfig(ure) package.
- nochapters: allows to use the look-and-feel with classes that do not use chapters, e.g. for articles. Automatically turns off a couple of other options: eulerchapternumbers, linedheaders, listsseparated, and parts.
- beramono: loads Bera Mono as typewriter font. (Default setting is using the standard CM typewriter font.)
- eulermath: loads the awesome Euler fonts for math. (Palatino is used as default font.)

- parts: if you use Part divisions for your document, you should choose this option. It provides you with the command \myPart{} which takes care of the style and the entry into the Table of Contents. (Cannot be used together with nochapters.)
- a5paper: adjusts the page layout according to the global a5paper option (*experimental* feature).
- minionpro: sets Robert Slimbach's Minion as the main font of the document. The textblock size is adjusted accordingly.
- pdfspacing: makes use of pdftex' letter spacing capabilities via the microtype package.³ This fixes some serious issues regarding math formulæ etc. in headers.
- minionprospacing: uses the internal textssc command of the MinionPro package for letter spacing. This automatically enables the minionpro option and overrides the pdfspacing option.
- dottedtoc: sets pagenumbers flushed right in the table of contents.
- listings: loads the listings package (if not already done) and configures the List of Listings accordingly.
- manychapters: if you need more than nine chapters for your document, you might not be happy with the spacing between the chapter number and the chapter title in the Table of Contents. This option allows for additional space in this context. However, it does not look as "perfect" if you use \parts for structuring your document.
- floatperchapter: activates numbering per chapter for all floats such as figures, tables, and listings (if used).

The best way to figure these options out is to try the different possibilities and see, what you and your supervisor like best.

To make things in general easier, classicthesis-ldpkg.sty contains some useful commands that might help you.

1.3 Future Work

So far, this is a quite stable version that served a couple of people well during their thesis time. However, some things are still not as they should be. Proper documentation in the standard format is still missing. In the long run, the style should probably be published separately, with the template bundle being only

³Use microtype's DVI output option to generate DVI with pdftex.

an application of the style. Alas, there is no time for that at the moment...it could be a nice task for a small group of LaTeXnicians.

Please do not send me email with questions concerning LATEX or the template, as I do not have time for an answer. But if you have comments, suggestions, or improvements for the style or the template in general, do not hesitate to write them on that postcard of yours.

1.4 License

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1.5 Beyond a Thesis

It is easy to use the layout of classicthesis.sty without the framework of this bundle. To make it even easier, this section offers some plug-and-play-examples.

The LATEX-sources of these examples can be found in the folder with the name Examples. They have been tested with latex and pdflatex and are easy to compile. To assure you even a bit more, PDFs built from the sources can also be found the folder.

2 Examples

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