

LaTeX style file for Oceanography proposals

This directory contains a latex style designed to help students prepare MSc and PhD proposals for the Department of Oceanography at Dalhousie University. The department has no requirements on the formatting of these documents, so there's no need to use the style provided here. The point is just to save you some time, e.g. in learning how to format a bibliography or in deciding whether to include committee members in the document.

Latex is quirky, so your first step should be to try to run the sample file named *myproposal.tex* on your machine. If you're on a unix machine, just type *make* to run *pdflatex*, creating a file *myproposal.pdf*. If you're on another machine, or if you'd rather use latex than *pdflatex*, then just whatever you normally do to run LaTeX code.

The thing most likely to give a problem is the inclusion of figures. If you use latex, you'll probably want to use *eps* figures, and if you use *pdflatex*, you'll want to use *pdf* figures. Different versions of latex handle the inclusion of graphics files differently. Some systems are clever enough to use a variety of graphics files, without changing the tex file; all of this is beyond the present scope however, and all I can do is advise you to google *includegraphics* and *epsfig*. The present example uses *pdflatex* and so the *includegraphics* line refers to a PDF file. To help you in your experimentation, this directory contains a figure in two formats, *figure1p.pdf* and *figure1e.eps*.

After you have, ahem, figured out figures, you'll find it easy to do the rest. Just edit *myproposal.tex* and start filling in information where suggested, e.g. changing the string (*insert author name here*) to your name.

Some options are available, and these are indicated in the sample file.

Please note that this is an early version of the file, and so there are lots of possibilities for improvement. Please report problems and suggestions to me.

PS. if you want to make timelines, consider using *ganttt.chart()*, which is provided by the *plotrix* library in the R language.

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