

# The THESIS: SM or PhD



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# Discussion:

- i. Journey to the Thesis
- ii. Proposal: SM/PhD
- ii. Thesis Definition
- iii. Elements of a Thesis
- iv. Archives and Thesis Assistance
- v. Degree Lists and Final Details

# Journey to the Thesis

complete body of research

prepare a proposal

# SM Proposal

due: first summer/second fall term  
approved by research supervisor

## Elements:

background/motivation  
preliminary work  
proposed work  
milestones with timeline

# PhD Proposal

due: end of 8<sup>th</sup> term

approved by research supervisor

create thesis committee

need 2 EECS faculty

## Elements:

background/motivation

preliminary work

proposed work

milestones with timeline

# Journey to the Thesis

For PhD candidates:

share results with prof/committee\*

prof/committee agrees: start writing



\*on regular intervals or with identified progress

# Thesis Definition\*

“a dissertation embodying results of original research and especially substantiating a specific view; *especially* : one written by a candidate for an academic degree”

MIT preserves all theses since a thesis is a *requirement* of the degree and a record of the *original* research

# Elements of a Thesis

Title Page

Abstract

Acknowledgement, Biography

List of Figures and Tables

Chapters

Appendices

Bibliography

Note: must obtain permission to use published work



# Title Page

choose a 'searchable' title

describes work conducted

use words: formulas, symbols

original signatures

assign copyright ©

(permission to reproduce)

# Abstract

one page, less than 350 words

brief summary, description

UMI/ProQuest Dissertation

Abstracts International

ProQuest Dissertations and

Theses database

# Elements of a Thesis- **ADVICE**

Title Page

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# Help with Thesis

<http://libguides.mit.edu/mit-thesis-faq>

Preparing your Thesis

Copyright

Access to your Thesis

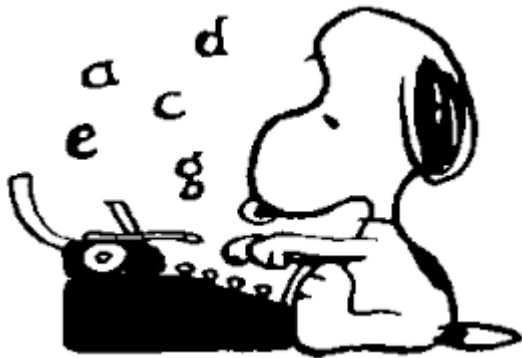
Holds and Changes to your Thesis

Access and Availability

Scanned Theses in DSpace

# What happens to thesis?

- 2 copies to Institute Archives and Special Collections
- digital copy on DSpace@MIT\*



\*<http://libraries.mit.edu/mit-theses>

# Important Online Links

<http://www.eecs.mit.edu/academics-admissions/graduate-program/graduate-office-materials>

<http://libraries.mit.edu/archives/thesis-specs/>

<http://web.mit.edu/tlo/www>

<http://odge.mit.edu/>

# EECS Librarians

Anne Graham  
grahama@mit.edu

Christine Sherratt  
gcsherra@mit.edu



# Degree Lists

September

February

June\* (**May 20<sup>th</sup> at 3pm**)

- must be a registered student for final term
- join degree list via Websis
- submit thesis title **Friday, Apr. 3**

\*Commencement covers all three degree lists





