

Dissertation Title: A title of great importance

by

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DEDICATION

*To all the PhD Students who are hitting the final stretch. You're almost
there!*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to acknowledge the many people who have contributed to this template, in advance of this: Marc Millstone who created the thesis template which I have only very lightly edited. Also, Aaron Bornstein who shared this template amongst the Cognition & Perception department and Teon Brooks who maintained its use for a couple years.

ABSTRACT

In this text, you will find the abstract of my dissertation. You will notice that I write each sentence on a different line in the .tex file. And yet when you make the pdf, it will look normal. The advantage of this is better version tracking if you track changes with git. The alternative would be to have a .tex line house a whole paragraph. In that case, if you make an edit, git will mark the whole paragraph as deleted and replaced. This makes it quite difficult to find the change you made previously, when you are comparing versions. Taken together, we find it best to break it down to individual sentences. As long as you separated each paragraph by an empty line, the text will look the same on compiling.

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INTRODUCTION

0.1 Overview

0.1.1 How to write a thesis

The work presented here is a thesis template made using \LaTeX . It is organized into a series of folders each of which corresponds to one chapter of the dissertation. Infrastructure files are maintained in the root directory. The template works with a Makefile which will compile the latex files into a single pdf. See the README file for usage.

0.2 Consider this

0.2.1 This is more text

Text under a smaller subheading

What is my purpose?

ON COGNITION

1.1 Abstract

I think therefore I am. Neurons are the cogs of cognition. Other important thoughts.

1.2 Introduction

A large body of work suggests that it is difficult to write a thesis. Yet, little is known regarding when we decided it was a good idea to do this in the first place. If this stuff was worth knowing, wouldn't we know it already? And still we do not. Here, we study the effects of cognitive dissonance on the ability of researchers to study cognition (Brehm & Cohen, 1962).

1.3 Methods

1.3.1 Participants

One participant was studied, the author, in an exercise of introspection. He is right-handed, 29 years old and is a solid 7. This was not approved by the IRB.

1 ON COGNITION

1.3.2 Stimuli & Task

To engage the participant in a feeling of cognitive dissonance, we forced him to write a thesis about cognitive dissonance. The results were surprisingly effective.

1.4 Results

We found that cognitive dissonance makes writing a thesis more difficult. No stats were used in the analysis of this finding.



Figure 1.1: *We're all just cogs with cogs inside of us.* Here is a figure I found online (McConnell, 2018).

As you may see from Figure 1.1, we are mostly made up of cogs.

1.5 Discussion

Taken together, we conclude that cognitive dissonance has some effect on productiv-

1.5 DISCUSSION

ity. Future work will analyze whether this is related to cognition or perception more directly.

2

ON PERCEPTION

2.1 Abstract

Perception is the act of perceiving. And yet, little is known regarding whether what we perceive is indeed real. Whether perceiving is believing or the other way around, we may truly never know. Here, we study the effect of perception on writing a dissertation. It may seem obvious that perceiving is a critical feature of writing a dissertation for error correction. Can it also be a detriment?

2.2 Introduction

People think about perception a lot (Wertheimer, 1923). Sometimes they even perceive equations like this!

$$\frac{E}{a^2} = \frac{MC^2}{b^2 + c^2} \tag{2.1}$$

From equation (2.1), we can see that equations are indeed perceptible.

2.3 Methods

In chapter 1, we investigated the effect of cognitive dissonance, here we test our *perception*. We do so by blindfolding ourselves and using ear plugs while typing this work. We also injected our fingers with novocaine to reduce somatosensory input.

2.4 Results

Writing a dissertation without perception is definitely more difficult. Both in terms of accuracy and reaction times.

RT (s) with each sense	Vision	Audition	Somatosensory
Present	62.3	32.9	54
Absent	502	249	62

Table 2.1: *Check out the lines on that table!* It's got a bunch of numbers too.

Table 2.1 is a table. It has no meaning. Don't try to figure it out¹.

2.5 Discussion

Turns out perception is useful. Boom! You've got a dissertation template.

¹Its worth noting that nothing in any of this text has any meaning. Its just gobbledygook to show examples of how to use latex in various settings.

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