**Notes about thesis requirements**

<https://www.mcgill.ca/study/2020-2021/university_regulations_and_resources/graduate/gps_gi_program_reqs#topic_5B2B7D2460E9403887CB7DC7C212D925>

The title of the thesis and the name of the examiner must be forwarded on a Nomination of Examiners form, available at [www.mcgill.ca/gps/thesis/thesis-guidelines/initial-submission](https://www.mcgill.ca/gps/thesis/thesis-guidelines/initial-submission), in accordance with the dates on [www.mcgill.ca/importantdates](https://www.mcgill.ca/importantdates/), through the Unit head or delegate of the department concerned at the same time that the thesis is submitted to Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

The thesis will not normally exceed 100 pages; in some disciplines, shorter texts are preferred. Guidelines and deadlines are available at [www.mcgill.ca/gps/thesis/thesis-guidelines](https://www.mcgill.ca/gps/thesis/thesis-guidelines).

<https://www.mcgill.ca/gps/thesis/thesis-guidelines>

(Sub links from main link above)

<https://www.mcgill.ca/gps/thesis/thesis-guidelines/preparation>

Components:

**1. Title page**

* The title of the thesis
* The student’s name and Unit\* followed by "McGill University, Montreal"
* The month and year the thesis was submitted
* The following statement: "A thesis submitted to McGill University in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the degree of....”
* The universal copyright notice “©” followed by the student’s name and the year the thesis was submitted

**2. A detailed table of contents**

**3. A brief abstract in both English and French.**

* If the language of the thesis is neither English nor French (only allowed for specific language Units) then a third abstract in the language of the thesis is required.

**4. Acknowledgements**

* Among other acknowledgements, the student is required to declare the extent to which assistance (paid or unpaid) has been given by members of staff, fellow students, research assistants, technicians, or others in the collection of materials and data, the design and construction of apparatus, the performance of experiments, the analysis of data, and the preparation of the thesis (including editorial help).
* In addition, it is appropriate to recognize the supervision and advice given by the thesis supervisor(s) and advisors.

**5. Contribution to original knowledge**

* A doctoral thesis must clearly state the elements of the thesis that are considered original scholarship and distinct contributions to knowledge.

**6. Contribution of Authors**

* Contributions of the student to each chapter must be explicitly stated.
* Contributions of any co-authors to each chapter must be explicitly stated.

**7. An introduction**

* Clearly state the rationale and objectives of the research.

**8. A comprehensive review of the relevant literature**

* The literature review must be in line with disciplinary expectations.

**9. Body of the thesis**

* Body of the thesis should encompass sections on:
  + Methodology
  + Research findings

**10. A comprehensive scholarly discussion of all the findings**

(In case of a manuscript-based thesis the comprehensive discussion should encompass all of the chapters of the thesis and should not be a repetition of the individual chapters.)

**11. A final conclusion and summary**

* Clearly state how the objectives of the research were met and discuss implications of findings.

**12. A thorough bibliography or reference list**

**Appendices are allowed and will be reviewed if required.**

**Length**  
MSc thesis generally < 100 pgs, maximum is 150 pgs, all inc.

**Script and Page Format**

A conventional font, size 12-point, 12 characters per inch must be used. Line spacing must be double or 1.5. Left and right hand margins should be 1 inch.

**Page Numbers**

**YES. Can skip on pages with figures.**

**Footnotes, references and appendices**

**Choose discipline appropriate style**

**Figures, illustrations, photographs and digital images**

**Positioned in style according to discipline. Over full paid to be avoided. Full page may skip numbering.**

**Your thesis will be “article based (as described above). Manuscript based: A series of papers on which the student is first author (NOT ME)**