

BYU MS/PhD L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Class Dissertation Example

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A dissertation submitted to the faculty of  
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in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of  
Doctor of Philosophy

Esteem D. Adviser, Chair  
Has A. Thought  
Wants A. Change  
Attends A. Meeting  
Will B. Present

Department of Computer Science

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## ABSTRACT

BYU MS/PhD L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Class Dissertation Example

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This document is an example of how to use the byumsphd L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X class file. The class creates Ph.D. and Master's documents equally well, producing all appropriate preamble content and adhering precisely to the minimum formatting requirements. It is meant to replace the old ECEn style file that has been circulating for many years.

Note that there is a blank line between paragraphs, here.

Keywords: Thesis template, poorly-crafted example, conflicting margin instructions

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks go to the ECEn style file authors for providing both a reasonable initial style and the motivation to abandon it.



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# Chapter 1

## Use of the “byumsphd” L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X Class

To use this package, you must first declare it as your document class

```
\documentclass[<options>]{byumsphd}
```

then put the `\maketitle` command at the beginning of your document and add the remaining content. This class is meant to ensure that the last part really is the hard part; nobody wants to go through years of research and hard work only to discover that their margins are next to impossible to get right.

The class declaration is, of course, not all that is required. Several things must be specified in the preamble of your document before the appropriate preface material can be generated. Each of these is discussed within its own section.

### 1.1 Class Options

This class has several options that affect document output in various ways. These are described in detail here.

- Document Type:
  - **phd (default)**: Produce a dissertation
  - **ms** Produce a thesis
  - **electronic**: Make an ETD (sets equalmargins, oneside)
  - **hardcopy**: Make bindable (sets no equalmargins, twoside)

- Font Size:
  - **10pt**
  - **11pt**
  - **12pt (default)**
- Preamble Settings:
  - **lot**: Produce a List of Tables (default off)
  - **lof**: Produce a List of Figures (default off)
  - **lol**: Produce a List of Listings (default off)
- Page Formatting:
  - **equalmargins**: Make all margins equal - no binding offset
  - **twoside (default)**: Alternate margins for even and odd pages
  - **oneside**: One-sided document - margins don't alternate
  - **twosidetoc**: Start two-sided margins at the TOC, don't wait for the document body and arabic numerals to do it. This is a strange requirement that I have seen in some places, especially strange since it means that the page numbering will change suddenly in the middle of the roman numerals (the first four full sheets might have numbers i-iv, but not printed, and the next sheets will each have two page numbers; most people probably won't notice, but it's still a weird requirement).
  - **openright (default)**: Chapters start on an odd page
  - **openany**: Chapters start anywhere (tip: don't use this)
  - **duplexprinter**: If printing two-sided (to save trees while evaluating the state of things, for example), this ensures that a blank page is printed when necessary between the front matter and the first chapter, ensuring that the first chapter

starts on the front of a sheet (the right side). It is important to note that you should *not* plan on using this to generate the final document. Paper that is required for theses is typically much heavier and more opaque than paper you are going to have in your department printer. Print everything one-sided so that text from the back of a page doesn't bleed through when getting copied for the final draft. Here is how I suggest you print the final draft:

- \* Print the entire document *without* this option (but *with* the twoside option so that page margins alternate correctly).
- \* Take it to the copy center and say the word "thesis" to someone behind the counter.
- \* Show her the front matter and say "one-sided". A sticky note is likely to be applied.
- \* Show her the rest and say "two-sided".
- \* Smile: she has your baby in her hands.
- \* Pay and wait until it's done.

- Miscellaneous Layout:

- **prettyheadings (default)**: Allow larger font sizes for chapter, part, and section headings. If you can get away with it, use this.
- **compliantheadings**: Use the same font size for everything – ugly, but compliant with the minimum style requirements.
- **simplechapterheading**: Chapter headings are "simple", meaning that they are of the format "1 Title" instead of "Chapter 1(newline)Title".
- **chapterleft (default)**: Chapter headings are left justified
- **chaptercenter**: Chapter headings are centered
- **partmiddle (default)**: Part headings are vertically centered

- **parttop**: Part headings are near the top of the page, appropriate if each part contains introductory text.



- Visualization Aids (all default to off):
  - **layout**: Display dotted lines for help with layouts. Shows the margins (helpful for finding overfull hboxes, etc.)
  - **grid**: Display a 1/2-inch grid on every page. When printing your document, use this on one of the pages to find out whether the printer shifts things down or not. My printer shifts everything down by 0.03 inches, which doesn't sound like a lot, but can make a huge difference, especially considering that paper is not actually 8 1/2 by 11, but a little smaller than that in each dimension.
  - **separator**: Output an extra instruction page in between the preamble and the body of the document. Even if the document is two-sided, the preamble *never* is, so this page reminds you or the printing service that this is the case while giving appropriate instructions for the remainder of the document. It *will not print* if the document is all one-sided (there's no point, really), and it should *never* be included in your final copies of the document, but discarded during printing. If it is not discarded, it is probably harmless since you can just throw it away after getting copies made.

## 1.2 Preamble Setup Commands

In order to produce a correct preamble, several things must be set, and others can optionally be added. The settings described next affect the behavior of `\maketitle`. These are required:

- `\title{<your document title>}`
- `\committeechair{<your adviser's name>}`
- `\committeemembera{<second member>}`
- `\committeememberb{<third member>}`
- `\committeememberc{<fourth member (PhD only)>}`

- `\committeememberd{<fifth member (PhD only)>}`
- `\monthgraduated{<month of graduation>}`
- `\yeargraduated{<hopefully this year>}`
- `\documentabstract{<your thesis abstract goes here>}`

The following are optional or have defaults suitable for CS majors:

- `\yearcopyrighted{<defaults to year graduated>}`
- `\acknowledgments{<the text of your acknowledgments goes here>}`
- `\university{<default: Brigham Young University>}`
- `\department{<default: Computer Science>}`
- `\graduatecoordinator{<default: Parris K. Egbert>}`
- `\college{<default: Physical and Mathematical Sciences>}`
- `\collegedean{<default: Thomas W. Sederberg>}`
- `\collegedeantitle{<default: Associate Dean>}`
- `\settextwidth{<default: 6in>}`
- `\setbindingoffset{<default: 0.5in (for non-equalmargins)>}`

## Chapter 2

### Parting Shots

If you are interested in getting a handle on what the class is doing, read the source; it is heavily commented and frankly one of the easiest-to-understand classes I have ever seen. It uses a minimum of deep  $\text{\TeX}$  trickery to accomplish its designs.

If you would like an enhancement made to it, you are welcome to do it yourself or to contact the author; information is available in the class file comments. License information is also available there, but boils down to basically this: you can do what you like with this file, but if you change it, change the name. If you have a change that you think belongs in the main distribution, contact the author and it will most likely be included in the official class file.

Please enjoy, and note all kinds of feedback are welcome, especially the kinds that involve deposits into the author's bank account.



## References

- [1] Me. This is not a real paper. In *Proceedings of My Life (ML)*, 2006.