

Getting Started Essentials

For more L^AT_EX information or more information about formatting your dissertation, see the “my-dissertation” PDF, which is a model for dissertations. You have two essential files: “my-dissertation.tex” and “utthesis.cls”. The class file is written and formatted to meet dissertation formatting guidelines as of 2017.

The basic set-up of this dissertation template is this: Your main file, which is used to compile your dissertation, is “my-dissertation.tex”. This file calls all other material, which is organized into clearly labeled folders. The “my-dissertation.tex” file has basic instructions as comments throughout the code to guide you in compiling your dissertation. Please read those comments to understand what the inputs should be for various commands.

Each chapter of your dissertation should be placed in an independent .tex file and saved in the “chapters” folder. These files should not contain any preamble material. See the existing chapter files for reference. Your dedication, acknowledgments, and abstract should go in the “front-matter” folder. Not all of these are required. Any appendices and your vita, which is a brief biography about the author written in third person and paragraph format, should be saved in the “back-matter” folder with each appendix in its own file. Any and all figures should be placed in the “figures” folder and the appropriate subfolder (eps files in the “eps” folder. All other file types in the “pdf” folder). Again, none of these files should include a preamble or load any packages, as that occurs in the “my-dissertation.tex” file.