

THE TITLE OF YOUR THESIS OR DISSERTATION

By

Your Legal Name

Bachelor of Arts – Political Science
University of Alberta, Canada
1986

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment
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Department of Political Science
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ABSTRACT

THE TITLE OF YOUR THESIS OR DISSERTATION

By

Your Legal Name

Dr. My Chair, Dissertation Committee Chair

Professor of Political Science

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

The abstract would be here. The purpose of this package is to give some advice about using L^AT_EX to prepare their thesis, and to illustrate, via an example (this document), what the package produces, as well as provide a template. This package should be used in conjunction with the source files. It must be numbered iii and be double spaced. All other formatting must be per the requirements of disciplines style guide or style guide that the thesis or dissertation committee members agreed upon.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I would like to thank Dr. Baragar for making this template and Dr. Gill for updating it.

This page is optional. However, Dr. Gill recommends that you include this section and give it some significant thought.

DEDICATION

To Mom.

Table of Contents

Abstract	iii
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
Chapter 1: Introduction	1
Fonts	1
Spacing and Margins	2
Chapter 2: Where Do I Get L ^A T _E X?	4
Getting L ^A T _E XUp and Running	4
Getting your T _E X distribution	4
Choosing and installing an editor	5
Getting started	6
Resources	6
Chapter 3: A Sample Document	8
Equations, Algorithms, and Theorems	10
Figures and Tables	11
Appendix	15
Vita	17

List of Tables

3.1	A Table of Made-Up Undergraduate Score Statistics	14
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List of Figures

3.1	This is a Figure 1 Figure.....	12
3.2	This is a Landscape Figure.....	13

Chapter 1

Introduction

This section of the template will give you some information about the basic formatting requirements for your thesis or dissertation. To the extent possible, these requirements have been built into this template. The text below comes directly from the “UNLV Graduate College: General Guidelines for Theses & Dissertations” September 1, 2015, update (https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page_files/27/GradCollege-ThesisDissertation-Guidelines.pdf) and the “UNLV Graduate College’s Organization of the Thesis and Dissertation Compiled Manuals” updated September 17, 2015 (https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page_files/27/GradCollege-ThesisDissertation-Manual.pdf). It is your responsibility to check with the Graduate College to confirm that there have been no subsequent updates to the formatting requirements. If you see that there are changes that impact this template, please contact Dr. Gill at rebecca.gill@unlv.edu.

Fonts

The font must be a standard style that is clear and readable, typically in 11, or 12 point size. Do not use cursive, script or italicized fonts except where allowed or required by your chosen style guide (Chicago, APA, ASA, MLA, etc.). Font size must be consistent throughout the text. Chapter titles and section titles can be larger font size than the standard

text, if in accordance with the student's approved style guide and advisory committee. This style decision must be applied consistently throughout the text. The font size of tables and figures can be smaller than the standard text if in accordance with the student's style guide and advisory committee (8 pt. minimum). This style decision must be applied consistently throughout the text.

You can find an instruction manual on how to create this page on the Thesis and Dissertation website.

Spacing and Margins

The document must be double spaced; the only exceptions are captions, foot notes, long quotations, bibliographic references, table titles and descriptions, figure titles and descriptions, inserted materials such as tables, images, diagrams, graphs, etc., and the author's curriculum vitae. Extended direct quotations must be handled according to the rules of your chosen style guide and the direction of your advisory committee.

Paragraphs should be indented the same number of spaces throughout the document, and spacing between paragraphs should be consistent. Spacing around titles, headings and subheadings should be consistent and match the student's chosen style guide. You can find an instruction manual on how to create this page on the Thesis and Dissertation website.

All pages should have a 1 margin on all sides (top, bottom, right, and left). Top and bottom margins must be blank with the exception of the page number at the bottom center of the page (please see item 2 Page Numbering). Do not include other headers or footers. You can find an instruction manual on how to create this page on the Thesis and Dissertation

website.

Chapter 2

Where Do I Get L^AT_EX?

L^AT_EX is a freeware application. It was originally designed by Donald Knuth at Stanford, and is being maintained by the (mostly European) academic community. There are versions that run on PC, Mac, and Linux systems, among others. Though the compilers are platform dependent, the source files are not.

Getting L^AT_EXUp and Running

A great place to start is the L^AT_EX-project website site about obtaining L^AT_EX. It is here: <https://latex-project.org/ftp.html>. The way you proceed is usually going to involve installing a version of L^AT_EX and then installing an editor.

Getting your T_EX distribution

You will need to install your T_EX distribution before you try to install an editor. For most beginning users, you'll want to install using the default options. The original PC version of L^AT_EX is MikTeX. It can be obtained from www.miktex.org. You can also try proTeXt, which is a T_EX distribution for Windows that is based on MikTeX and adds a few extra features. You can find this here: <http://www.tug.org/protext>.

The T_EX distribution for Mac OS is called MacTeX. It can be downloaded here: <http://www.tug.org/mactex>.

[//www.tug.org/mactex/](http://www.tug.org/mactex/). If you're using Linux, you probably already have a TeX system installed. If you don't, you should install TeX Live from here: <http://www.tug.org/texlive>.

Choosing and installing an editor

Then, you'll probably want to choose L^AT_EX editor. Although MikTeX and MacTeX both come with front ends, there are heaps of very good open source (free!) editors from which to choose. Dr. Gill prefers TeXstudio, which is free from <http://texstudio.sourceforge.net>. This editor supports Windows, Mac OS, and Linux. TeXworks (<https://www.tug.org/texworks>) and TeXmaker (<http://www.xmlmath.net/texmaker>) are also very good, and they work on all of the major operating systems. Dr. Baragar prefers Winedt (<http://www.winedt.com>), which works on Windows.

Sometimes, you might want to make some edits on the fly. For this, you might want to use an online, web-based editor. For this, my favorite is ShareLaTeX. It has a free version and a subscription version. However, if you share ShareLaTeX with others, you can unlock the premium features for free! So, if you get ShareLaTeX from this link, you'll help me unlock free Dropbox integration! <https://www.sharelatex.com?r=8c76f322&rm=d&rs=b>. Other good online editors are Overleaf <https://www.overleaf.com> and Authorea <https://www.authorea.com>, both of which also have free versions and paid subscription-based versions.

Of course, things are always changing in the world of L^AT_EX. Dr. Gill compiled this list as of 2016, but there may be even better options available to you now. Be sure to search for something like “Best L^AT_EX Editors 20XX” (where the 20XX is the current year) to see if you can find something new.

Getting started

It's probably best to extract these files into a new folder for your thesis or dissertation. You should keep a copy of the originals, though, in case you accidentally change something that sends the entire thing down a spiral of warnings, errors, and failed rendering. If your dissertation is temporarily called "Project X," you would extract all of these into a folder of that name.

From there, you'll edit the content in the main files. You might want to change the names of the chapter files. If you do, be sure to change the names in the `\include{SampleChapterX}` entry in the UNLVthesisTemplate.tex file. You're probably going to need more than three chapters, so you'll need to create more and then add `\include{SampleChapterX}` entries in the UNLVthesisTemplate.tex file.

You will also probably (hopefully!) need a bibliography. Dr. Gill has formatted this template to use `natbib`, which is my favorite. You might want to do this differently, depending upon which formatting style you need to use for your works cited list. Natbib is very flexible (especially for author-date formats). You can find more information on customizing your bibliography using natbib by consulting the Reference Sheet on CTAN's natbib page: <http://mirrors.ctan.org/macros/latex/contrib/natbib/natnotes.pdf>.

Resources

Probably the best place to start is on the starter page for the website www.ctan.org/ starter. This includes links to *The (Not so) short introduction to L^AT_EX 2_ε*, by Tobias Oetiker, et al. It is a 110 page free document (?). You'll also want to bookmark the L^AT_EX Wikibook:

<https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/LaTeX>. The nice thing about this resource is that it is updated regularly with new information. There are also countless tutorials and videos on the internet. Google is your friend!

There are several books out there that might also be helpful. Some of the old favorites might work, and they might help you avoid having to use a lot of the newer packages. The downside is that these books are out of date about these new packages, so you might miss out on a very simple way to do what you need to do. With that caveat, here are some of the classics courtesy of Dr. Baragar: One perennial favorite is *The L^AT_EX Companion* by ?, but this is probably more for an expert. *A document preparation system L^AT_EX* by ? is more suited to the beginner. There is also *A guide to L^AT_EX*, by ?, but Dr. Baragar thinks this, too, is for the expert.

Because of the rapidly evolving nature of open source programming languages, you may prefer to use the online guides and discussions at places like the T_EX section of StackExchange (<http://tex.stackexchange.com/questions/ask>). Search first and familiarize yourself with the protocol before you ask a question; the folks over there get irritated if you ask a duplicate question or fail to provide a minimal working example (MWE)!

Chapter 3

Going Beyond the Text

One of the more difficult formatting challenges you'll have is dealing with the various special features that many dissertations and theses require. You're likely to need tables, figures, equations, algorithms, or other non-prose representations of your work. Below are some examples of how to accomplish this.

First, a couple of notes from the Graduate College. This is taken directly from the formatting guidelines. This template will accomplish most of this automatically, provided that you use the labeling templates you'll find in this chapter. The first level content below is from the Graduate College, and my commentary for each appears in the second level content.

- Be sure that all inserted information (images, tables, graphs, diagrams, etc.) are labeled with a title and number (Example: Table 1. Total Graduate Students from 1986 to 1997). If applicable, the label listed in the text must match the label listed in the List of Tables or List of Figures exactly. The numbering must be consecutive, per the requirements of your style.
- This will happen automatically, provided that you use the proper environments and label tags. The examples are below.

- If a table or a figure is landscape oriented, the table’s/figure’s label must be landscaped oriented to match.
 - There is an example of this below in Figure 3.2 on Page 13.
- If you have 5 or more of an embedded item (tables, figures, equations, algorithms, etc.), the must be referenced in a list in the front of your document. The list should be titled “List of...,” so tables would be “List of Tables,” figures would be “List of Figures,” etc. If you have 4 or fewer of an item, it does not need to appear in a list.
 - This is already automated in this template *except* for lists of equations or theorems. To do this, you would need to use the `tocloft` package. This would require completely rewriting the `UNLVthesisTemplate.tex` and `UNLVthesis.sty` files. Dr. Gill hopes to undertake this formatting overhaul in an upcoming version of the template.
- Tables and figures must be clearly delineated from the text. This can be done by line breaks, (a double space), borders, or a delineation that is approved by your style guide. The title and description of tables, figures, images, etc. are considered to be part of the table, figure, or image and must be clearly delineated from the text as well.
 - This is automated in the template. You can also use the placement operators and (if you must) vertical or horizontal spacing adjustments to get the look you want.
- Images, tables, diagrams, graphs, etc. embedded into your document must fit on a single page. You can use a smaller font size on tables, figures, and other inserted

materials. If a table does not fit within your text on a single page it must be moved to an appendix. You can either give each table its own appendix or you can create a single appendix containing multiple tables.

- If you have a table that spans more than one page, it has to go in an appendix.

You will probably want to use the `longtable` package to accomplish that.

Equations, Algorithms, and Theorems

In the current version of this template, there is no support for a table of equations. If you have more than five numbered equations in your thesis or dissertation, you are required to include a table of equations. In order to do this, you will probably have to use the `tocloft` package. If you do that, you'll basically need to rewrite much of the `UNLVthesisTemplate.tex` and `UNLVthesis.sty` documents. Dr. Gill is currently working on incorporating the `tocloft` package into a future version of this template.

To type an equation in the line, put it between dollar signs. For example, $y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \varepsilon$. If you would like to highlight that equation without numbering it, you can use this notation:

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \varepsilon$$

If the equation is to be referenced, then do the following:

$$y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \varepsilon \tag{3.1}$$

Note that, if you have five or more numbered equations in your thesis or dissertation, you'll need to include a Table of Equations. You can then reference the equation (Equation (3.1)) has no non-trivial solutions in the integers.

Some results are important, and you may wish to express them as a theorem.

Theorem 1 (Fermat's Last Theorem). *The equation $x^n + y^n = z^n$ has no solutions $x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}$ for $n \geq 3$ and $xyz \neq 0$.*

You can then reference the theorem using the `cleveref` package. Theorem 1 was proved by Wiles. The proof does not appear in ?.

Sometimes you might want to have aligned equations, like the following:

$$\frac{\partial \hat{Y}}{\partial X_1} = B_1 \tag{3.2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{Y}}{\partial X_2} = B_2 \tag{3.3}$$

You could also choose to place the label directly after the align command, which would label the pair of equations instead of labeling each of the equations separately.

Figures and Tables

You will probably need to use figures or tables in your dissertation or thesis. Below are a few examples here so that you can see how to do this properly. Remember to label these figures and tables so that they appear properly in your list of tables and/or list of figures.

A picture is shown in Figure 3.1.

Now, let's try to include a landscape image. This is required for images (or tables) that



Figure 3.1: This is a Figure 1 Figure

are too wide to fit on a single page. Obviously, \LaTeX is going to put this where it will fit, so you'll have to look to Page 13 to find Figure 3.2.

You can use all sorts of different programs to create graphics.¹ Usually, .png files seem to work best in \LaTeX . If your graphics are in a different format, you can just open the image in my default “paint” program and save the image as a .png file.

You might also want to include a table. Your \LaTeX editor might include a wizard for creating tables easily. Dr. Gill actually likes to use an online table editor from the Tables Generator website: <http://www.tablesgenerator.com/>. Be sure to put your table in the tabular environment and include a caption. See an example in Table 3.1 This will ensure that your table is included in your list of tables (which is required!).

Remember, long tables (using the `longtable` package, perhaps) need to be placed in the appendices.

¹Dr. Gill likes using R to make cool data visualizations!



Huge Placeholder

Figure 3.2: This is a Landscape Figure

Table 3.1: A Table of Made-Up Undergraduate Score Statistics

Subject	Mean	SD	Median	Min	Max	N
Reading	60.80	17.63	61	27	92	25
Writing	60.00	19.02	60	25	99	25
Verbal	60.00	14.31	62	40	91	25
History	55.20	19.56	51	26	95	25
Math	54.40	19.29	50	23	92	25
Science	50.80	17.96	25	20	82	25

Appendix: Title of Appendix

This section is optional. If you have only one appendix, it is titled as above. If you have more than one, you should use Appendix A, B, C, etc. You should label any tables or figures in this section just as you did for your chapters, because they should also appear in your list of tables and/or figures.

Oversized and digital items can be attached to the document through an appendix. The location of each of these items should be referenced in the appendix. Most of the time, this means you'd include text under the title of the appendix that says what it is and where it can be found. For example, it might say "Dataset can be found at www.unlv.edu/mydata."

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

VITA

John Smith

Name of University	john.smith@email.com
Department/Institution	www.johnsmith.com
Address	Skype: john.smith
City Name, State 12345-6789	Phone: +1 (123) 456-7899

Education	<p>Most Recent University Ph.D., Economics, 2015. Fields: International Trade, Monetary Economics, Development M.A., Political Science, 2013.</p> <p>University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana B.A., Economics, 2005.</p>
Dissertation	<p>“Title of Dissertation” Short description/summary of research and estimation techniques. This can be several lines long because of the paragraph box.</p>
Research	<p>Department, University Postdoctoral Research Associate Project: Title of Research</p>
Teaching	<p>Department, University Instructor, Fundamentals of the Global Economy, 2016</p> <p>Department, University Job Title, Course Name, 2014-2015 Job Title, Course Name, 2012-2014</p> <p>Department, University Job Title, Course Name, 2013 Job Title, Course Name, 2013</p>
Awards and Fellowships	<p>Graduate Student Teacher of the Year, Department Course Name, 2014-2015</p> <p>Fulbright Scholarship City, Country, 2006-2009</p>
Languages and Skills	<p>English (native), German (advanced) Stata, \LaTeX, Eviews, Mathematica</p>

