SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

for

THESES AND DISSERTATIONS

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE SCHOOL
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MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

These guidelines provide students at Vanderbilt University with essential information about how to prepare and submit theses and dissertations in a format acceptable to the Graduate School. The topics range from writing style to the completion of required forms. There are instructions and sample pages on the Graduate School website for guidance through this process.

Style

There is a distinct difference between submitting a manuscript to a publisher and providing a completed thesis or dissertation to the Graduate School. A manuscript represents a pre-publication format; a thesis or dissertation is a final, completely edited, published document. Students should use these guidelines, not other style manuals, as the final authority on issues of format and style. Areas not covered in this document or deviation from any of the specifications should be discussed with a Graduate School format editor. Do not use previously accepted theses and dissertations as definite models for style.

Composition and Structure

Manuscripts consist of four major sections and must be placed in the order listed:

Preliminary Pages
- Title Page (required)
- Copyright (optional, Ph.D. only)
- Dedication (optional)
- Acknowledgment (optional)
- Preface (optional)
- Table of Contents (required)
- List of Tables (required)
- List of Figures (required)
- List of Abbreviations/Nomenclature/Symbols (optional)

Text
- Introduction (may be referred to as Chapter 1)
- Body of Manuscript

References (required)

Appendices (optional)

Acknowledgement of Support

Acknowledgement of grant and contract support may be included on the Acknowledgment page.
Abstract

The abstract is a separate document from the manuscript; it is not bound with the thesis or dissertation. Abstracts must be printed on white, 8 ½ x 11-inch paper. No page numbers are printed on the abstract. One copy is required. Abstracts must have the original signature(s) of the faculty advisor(s). The maximum length of the thesis abstract is 250 words. The maximum length of the dissertation abstract is 350 words, including the dissertation title. Majors are listed on the last pages of these guidelines.

Title Page

The title page must be printed on white, 8 ½ x 11-inch paper. Committee member signatures on the title page must be originals. Spacing on the title page will vary according to the length of the title. The five lines following your name must be formatted exactly as found on the sample title page. The title page is considered page ‘i’ but the page number is not printed on the page. The month, day, and year representing the conferral date must be listed on the title page.

Font

Use a standard font consistently throughout the manuscript. Font size should be 10 to 12 point for all text, including titles and headings. It is permissible to change point size in tables, figures, captions, footnotes, and appendix material. Retain the same font, where possible. When charts, graphs, or spreadsheets are “imported,” it is permissible to use alternate fonts. Italics are appropriate for book and journal titles, foreign terms, and scientific terminology. Boldface may be used within the text for emphasis and/or for headings and subheadings. Use both in moderation.

Margins

Measure the top margin from the edge of the page to the top of the first line of text. Measure the bottom page margin from the bottom of the last line of text to the bottom edge of the page. Page margins should be a minimum of one-half inch from top, bottom, left and right and a maximum of one inch from top, bottom, left and right. Right margins may be justified or ragged, depending upon departmental requirements or student preference.

Pagination

The title page is considered to be page one, but the page number should not be printed on this page. All other pages should have a page number centered about ½ inch from the bottom of the page. Number the preliminary pages in lowercase Roman numerals. Arabic numerals begin on the first page of
text. Pages are numbered consecutively throughout the remainder of the manuscript. The Introduction may be placed before the first page of Chapter 1, if it is not considered a chapter. The use of Arabic numbers may begin on the first page of the Introduction.

Spacing

The entire text may be single-spaced, one and one-half spaced, or double-spaced. Block quotations, footnotes, endnotes, table and figure captions, titles longer than one line, and individual reference entries may be single-spaced. With spacing set, the following guidelines should be applied: Two enters after chapter numbers, chapter titles and major section titles (Dedication, Acknowledgements, Table of Contents, List of Tables, List of Figures, List of Abbreviations, Appendices, and References). Two enters before each first-level and second-level heading. Two enters before and after tables and figures embedded in the text. One enter after sub-level headings.

Numbering Schemes

Chapters may be identified with uppercase Roman numerals or Arabic numbers. Styles used on the Table of Contents should be consistent within the text. Tables, figures, footnotes, and equations should be numbered consecutively throughout the manuscript with Arabic numerals. These may also be numbered consecutively by each chapter. Equation numbers should be placed to the right of the equation and contained within parentheses or brackets. Use uppercase letters to designate appendices.

Division

Body of Manuscript

Departments will determine acceptable standards for organizing master’s theses into chapters, sections, or parts. Usually, if a thesis has headings, a Table of Contents should be included. The dissertation must be divided into chapters. The use of parts, in addition to chapters, is acceptable.

Words and Sentences

Take care to divide words correctly. Do not divide words from one page to the next. Word processing software provides for “widow and orphan” protection. Utilize this feature to help in the proper division of sentences from one page to another. In general, a single line of text should not be left at the bottom or top of a page. Blank space may be left at the bottom of a page, where necessary.

Headings and Subheadings

Use headings and subheadings to describe briefly the material in the section that follows. Be
consistent with your choice of “levels” and refer to the instructions on spacing for proper spacing between headings, subheadings, and text. First-level headings must be listed on the Table of Contents. Second-level and subsequent subheadings may be included.

**Acronyms/Abbreviations/Capitalization**

Abbreviations on the title page should appear as they do in the body of the thesis or dissertation. (Examples: *Xenopus laevis*, Ca, Mg, Pb, Zn; TGF-β, p53.) Capitalize only the first letter of words of importance, distinction, or emphasis in titles and headings. Do not alter the all-cap style used for acronyms (Example: AIDS) and organizational names (Example: IBM). Use the conventional style for Latin words (Examples: *in vitro*, *in vivo*, *in situ*). Genus and species should be italicized. Capitalize the first letter of the genus, but not that of the species name (Example: *Streptococcus aureus*).

**Tables and Figures**

Figures commonly refer to photographs, images, maps, charts, graphs, and drawings. Tables generally list tabulated numerical data. These items should appear as close as possible to their first mention in the text. Tables and figures may be placed in appendices, if this is a departmental requirement or standard in the field. Tables and figures should be numbered with Arabic numerals, either consecutively or by chapter. **Be consistent** in the style used in the placement of tables and figure captions. Tables and figures may be embedded within the text or placed on a page alone. When placed on its own page, a figure or table may be centered on the page. When included with text, a table or figure should be set apart from the text. Tables and figures, including captions, may be oriented in landscape. Make sure to use landscape page positioning on landscape-oriented pages. Table data and figure data must be kept together, if the information fits on one page.
GENERAL INFORMATION

Language Other Than English

Students in foreign language departments may submit manuscripts in a language other than English. The abstract, however, must be in English.

Multi-Part and Journal Article Format

A multi-part presentation format may be used for combining research that has been conducted in two or more related or non-related areas, or for presentation of combined journal articles (published or submitted for publication). Organization of the parts or articles into chapters is recommended. Each “chapter” may contain its own list of references and appendices. Each dissertation should include the appropriate preliminary pages, an introduction presenting the general theme of the research and literature review, and a conclusion summarizing and integrating the major findings. Each “chapter” should consist of well-defined “subheadings,” such as introduction, methods, results, and discussion.

Permission to Use Previously Published Material

The standard provisions of copyright law [https://researchguides.library.vanderbilt.edu/copyright] regarding quoted and previously published material under copyright apply to the publication of theses and dissertations. When you have previously published portions of your thesis or dissertation as an article or book chapter, you must ensure the work may also be published as part of the dissertation or thesis. Many publishers provide exceptions to work published as part of graduation requirements and this is often clearly outlined as part of the publication agreement signed by the author. You must properly acknowledge previously published material within the text of your manuscript.

If this exception does not exist or is not specified, you must obtain approval or rely on Fair Use [https://researchguides.library.vanderbilt.edu/copyright/fair-use] to publish your dissertation or thesis with the copyrighted material. Emailed approvals from the journals are acceptable and should be uploaded into the submission system as “Administrative Files.” You should discuss questions about copyrighted material with your dissertation advisor or contact the VU Librarian for Copyright and Scholarly Communications.

If the work is submitted to the ProQuest database, ProQuest will scan the document to ensure it contains no copyrighted material without consent and proper citation.

Copyright

Your thesis or dissertation is automatically protected by copyright as soon as it is fixed in a tangible form, such as being saved as an electronic file. Although not required, it is good practice to include the
copyright symbol, your name, and the year on the title page of your work (© 2017 by [your name]). You also may choose to register your copyright, which will gain you additional protections in case of litigation for copyright infringement. You can file a copyright registration online directly with the U.S. Copyright Office [https://www.copyright.gov/]. The U.S. Copyright Office charges a fee of $35.00.

**Publishing Agreements**

You will be asked to agree to the license to deposit your submission to the Vanderbilt Institutional Repository. The Library, with the Vanderbilt Institutional Repository, enhances the metadata provided with your dissertation and adds your record to discovery tools like the Library Catalog and WorldCat, making it easily findable for scholars worldwide. The library also maintains the technical infrastructure of the repository. If you plan to make your dissertation open access, we can assist you in understanding the options for licensing. If your dissertation makes use of copyrighted content, you will want to think early on about whether you may rely on fair use or need to acquire licenses. We will be glad to meet with you to discuss the requirements of your particular project.

PhD students also have the option to request deposit of your submission with ProQuest, at no additional cost to you. If you elect to deposit your submission with ProQuest, you must also agree to the ProQuest license. This agreement is entirely between you and ProQuest. Vanderbilt’s sole responsibility is to pass on the license agreement and your work to ProQuest. Please contact ProQuest Dissertation Publishing, at 1(800) 521-0600 or disspub@proquest.com with any questions.

**Embargos**

The expectation of the Graduate School is that all theses and dissertations will be made publicly available absent these limited circumstances. You have the option to make your submission available immediately or to temporarily embargo its release for a limited period of time. Students may elect to embargo their work if they anticipate publication, are making a patent application, have restrictions imposed by sponsors, or privacy concerns. Metadata, including the abstract, about your submission will still be visible in the Vanderbilt Institutional Repository, thereby indicating that your submission was accepted. You should discuss any anticipated hold on publication with your advisor. If selecting the ProQuest publishing option, be sure that you make the same embargo selection under the Vanderbilt options. Once your submission has been released to ProQuest, we have no ability to retract it.

If, after consultation with your advisor, you would like to request a temporary embargo, you can elect from the following:

— No embargo and release immediately for worldwide access
— Six (6) month embargo
— Twelve (12) month embargo
— Twenty-four (24) month embargo

If you, after consultation with your advisor, determine that you need to extend your embargo beyond your initial selection, you can only do so with permission from the Graduate School. If you have questions about your embargo, you may email etdadmin@vanderbilt.edu

**Extra Copies**

The Graduate School recommends Campus Copy for procuring bound copies of theses and dissertations. You may contact them directly at 615-936-4544, or online at https://printingservices.vanderbilt.edu.
THESIS & DISSERTATION SUBMISSION

The submission process for theses and dissertations begins at the Graduate School. Students or programs must deliver all original signature pages, including Defense Results, title page, abstract, and Completion of Master’s Degree form, to the Graduate School in 117 Alumni Hall. All students must complete either an Intent to Graduate or an Intra-Term Application. The Intent to Graduate is an online form accessed through YES. This form is to be completed by all students planning to graduate at the end of the Summer, Fall, or Spring Term. Student’s planning to graduate on one of the Intra-Term dates should not complete the INTENT, but submit the Intra-Term Application to the Graduate School, making sure to complete both pages.

Electronic Submission in VIREO

The Graduate School requires electronic submission of all theses and dissertations through VIREO, http://vireo.library.vanderbilt.edu/. Students will use their VU net ID and password to log in and begin completing the appropriate information, as outlined below.

Verify Your Information
- Name
- Orcid ID
- Department/Program, Degree, Major
- Phone & Address

License & Publication Agreements
- Vanderbilt License Agreement (Required)
- ProQuest Publication (Optional)

Document Information
- Title, degree month/year, Defense Date, Abstract, Keywords, Subjects, Language
- Your Committee, Chair email
- Previously Published Material (Optional)
- Embargo Options

Upload Your Files
- Primary Document: Thesis/Dissertation
- Additional Files: Supplemental, Source, Administrative (CV, SED)

Confirm and Submit
Students will receive a confirmation email once submitted.
**Master’s Thesis Requirements**

*Intent to Graduate OR Intra-term Application*  
Students graduating at the end of the semester will complete the INTENT to Graduate, from their student profile in YES. Student graduating on one of the Intra-Term dates, will complete the Intra-Term Application and submit to the Graduate School.

*Format Review*  
A format review is required before thesis or dissertation approval. Review will take place through VIREO when you first upload your document. Allow time before the deadline for review and revisions. For questions or an in-person format review, contact etdadmin@vanderbilt.edu.

*Title Page*  
Submit one copy of the title page, with original signatures of the committee members. The date on the title page will reflect the Month, day, year of degree conferral.

*Abstract*  
Submit one copy of the abstract, with the original signature of the advisor.

*Completion of Master’s Degree Form*  
Form must be completed and signed by the advisor and the DGS, then submitted securely by the program.

**Ph.D. Dissertation Requirements**

*Intent to Graduate OR Intra-term Application*  
Students graduating at the end of the semester will complete the INTENT to Graduate, from their student profile in YES. Students graduating on one of the Intra-Term dates will complete the Intra-Term Application and submit to the Graduate School.

*Defense Results*  
Students must schedule the Defense Exam with the Graduate School two weeks prior to the exam. Students will bring the Defense Results Form (along with the Title Page & Abstract) to obtain committee signatures. Deliver the final signed pages, with original signatures, to the Graduate School.

*Format Review*  
A format review is required before thesis or dissertation approval. Review will take place through VIREO when you first upload your document. Allow time before the deadline for review and revisions. For questions or an in-person format review, contact etdadmin@vanderbilt.edu.
Title Page (+ Extra Copy)
Submit the title page, with original signatures of the committee members, plus one copy. The date on the title page will reflect the Month, day, year of degree conferral.

Abstract
Submit one copy of the abstract, with the original signature of the advisor.

Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED)
Students finishing a doctorate degree are requested to complete the SED survey accessible at https://sed-ncses.org. Information provided to the National Opinion Research Council remains confidential and will be used for research or statistical purposes. Submit the Certificate of Completion with your VIREO submission as an administrative file, or email to etdadmin@vanderbilt.edu

Curriculum Vitae
Submit your CV through your VIREO submission as an administrative file, or email to etdadmin@vanderbilt.edu. Instructions on preparing a curriculum vitae are available at: https://gradschool.vanderbilt.edu/forms/CV_requirement.pdf.
Margins Sample

↑

Minimum ½” Maximum 1” top margin
(from top of page to top of first line text)

← Minimum ½” Maximum 1” left margin ← Minimum ½” Maximum 1” right margin →

(Page numbers fall WITHIN the bottom margin and must be centered)
(From the bottom of the last line of text to the bottom of the page)
Minimum ½” Maximum 1” bottom margin
↓

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Abstract Format

MAJOR
(All caps, underlined, right justified, one inch from top of page. DO NOT precede Program name with the words “Department of”).

{Set line spacing to double spacing after Title}

Final title of dissertation, upper/lower case, single-spaced, centered

Your name, upper/lower case, centered

Dissertation (or Thesis) under the direction of Professor (Full Name)
(Underlined, centered, upper/lower case, double space to text, no page numbers)

TEXT
(Double spaced)

Approved ________________________________ Date________________

Type full name of Dissertation (or Thesis) director
HUMAN GENETICS

Strain-Specific Alleles of Phox2B Differentially Modify Sox10\textsuperscript{Dom} Aganglionosis

Lauren Colleen Walters

Dissertation under the direction of Professor E. Michelle Southard-Smith

Hirschsprung disease (HSCR) is characterized by a lack of enteric ganglia in a variable portion of the distal bowel. The complex inheritance pattern of this disorder has led researchers to focus on genetic effects other than the putative disease mutation. Mouse models provide a controlled background for these types of studies. Sox10 is an essential gene for the development of the enteric nervous system (ENS). Sox10\textsuperscript{Dom} mice on a mixed genetic background exhibit the variable aganglionosis seen in HSCR cases. Congenic lines of Sox10\textsuperscript{Dom} mice on distinct inbred genetic backgrounds, C57BL/6J (B6) and C3HeB/FeJ (C3Fe), differ in penetrance and extent of aganglionosis. A linkage screen for modifiers of Sox10\textsuperscript{Dom} aganglionosis was undertaken in a large B6 X C3Fe F\textsubscript{2} population. Several potential modifier regions were identified, with the most significant located on chromosome five (Sox10\textit{m3}). The most relevant candidate gene in this region was Phox2B, an essential factor in autonomic neurogenesis.

Approved ________________________________ Date_____________________

E. Michelle Southard-Smith, Ph.D.
Title Page Format

Title of dissertation, upper/lower case, single-spaced, centered
(One inch from top of page to top of title)

Spacing will vary depending on length of the title of thesis or dissertation

By

Your Name
(The following five lines must be included in this exact format)

Dissertation (or Thesis)
Submitted to the Faculty of the
Graduate School of Vanderbilt University
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

in

Major

Month, Day, Year
*IMPORTANT: The date will reflect your proposed degree conferral date as
selected from the Intent to Graduate form. This is your actual GRADUATION
date, not your thesis or defense date.

Nashville, Tennessee

Approved: (Original signatures of committee members) Date:

(Typed member's full name under each signature line)

(Typed member's full name under each signature line)

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(Typed member's full name under each signature line)

(Typed member's full name under each signature line)

(Title Page carries the value of page “i”, but do not print number on page)
Title Page Sample - ETD

Mechanisms of Antibiotic Resistance
and Pathogenesis in *Acinetobacter baumannii*

By

Marguerite Indriati Hood

Dissertation

Submitted to the Faculty of the
Graduate School of Vanderbilt University
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

in

Microbiology and Immunology

August 31, 2017

Nashville, Tennessee

Approved:

Timothy L. Cover, M.D.
Dean W. Ballard, Ph.D.
Timothy S. Blackwell, M.D.
Terence S. Dermody, M.D.
Eric P. Skaar, Ph.D.

[Title Page carries the value of page "i", but do not print number on the page]
Copyright Sample

Copyright © 2014 by Clinton Cody Bertram
All Rights Reserved
Dedication Sample

To my amazing daughters, Megan and Alisha, wise beyond their years

and

To my beloved husband, Jonathan, infinitely supportive
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This work would not have been possible without the financial support of the Vanderbilt Physician Scientist Development Award, the American Roentgen Ray Society Scholarship or the Vanderbilt University Medical Center Department of Radiology and Radiological Sciences. I am especially indebted to Dr. Martin Sandler, Chairman of the Department of Radiology, and Dr. John Worrell, Chief of the Section of Thoracic Radiology, who have been supportive of my career goals and who worked actively to provide me with the protected academic time to pursue those goals.

I am grateful to all of those with whom I have had the pleasure to work during this and other related projects. Each of the members of my Dissertation Committee has provided me extensive personal and professional guidance and taught me a great deal about both scientific research and life in general. I would especially like to thank Dr. Ron Price, the chairman of my committee. As my teacher and mentor, he has taught me more than I could ever give him credit for here. He has shown me, by his example, what a good scientist (and person) should be.

Nobody has been more important to me in the pursuit of this project than the members of my family. I would like to thank my parents, whose love and guidance are with me in whatever I pursue. They are the ultimate role models. Most importantly, I wish to thank my loving and supportive wife, Jennifer, and my three wonderful children, Lauren, Jacob and Elizabeth, who provide unending inspiration.
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CHAPTER I

TITLE OF CHAPTER

First-Level Heading

Begin each chapter at the top of a new page. Follow the chapter number and chapter title
with the same amount of space (line and one-half, double space, or “two enters, with spacing set to
double space”). Use this same amount of space to precede first- and second-level headings, and
before and after figures and tables.

Second-Level Heading

The number of levels and the placement of the headings and subheadings will vary,
dependent on departmental requirements or preference. Headings may be centered, left justified,
in bold face, italicized, indented or numbered. Use the same style throughout the document.

Be consistent with spacing and heading styles.

(Begin the use of Arabic numbering on the first page of text. Continue consecutive Arabic page numbering
throughout the remainder of the document, including the appendices and references)
Most children develop spatial concepts by looking at their environment and moving through their surroundings (Long & Hill, 2000). Children who are blind are unable to visually learn about their environment and are often delayed in the motor skills necessary to explore their environment (Adelson & Fraiberg, 1974; Jan, Sykanda, & Groenveld, 1990; Palazesi, 1986). Despite these delays, children who are blind are able to develop and use cognitive maps of spatial relationships though not necessary following the same pattern as children with typical sight (see literature review).

First, key terms are defined and the impact of blindness on cognitive mapping is discussed. Next, a historical perspective on cognitive mapping in children with visual impairments is provided. Then, methods of measuring cognitive mapping are presented, and the importance of studying cognitive mapping abilities in children is discussed. Finally, research questions are presented.

**Definitions and Impact of Blindness on Cognitive Mapping**

**Definitions**

Cognitive mapping – a psychological process in which one “acquires, codes, stores, recalls, and decodes information about the relative locations and attributes of phenomena in his every day, spatial environment” (Downs & Stea, 1973, p. 9).
Once again when he reminds us of Thomas S. Kuhn’s work on paradigms: “But as Thomas S. Kuhn has stated in the Structure of Scientific Revolutions, theory often follows rather than precedes the practical ‘shift in paradigm’ that he regards as constituting a revolution in most research disciplines.”95 Perhaps the practice of a new paradigm is coming into place with the theory to follow. Perhaps we as historians of ancient Israel should acknowledge an axiom of philosopher of history, Michael Stanford,

It is therefore not a weakness of history that it generates unending debates. Therefore, history is to be seen not as a set of cast-iron facts, but rather as an ongoing conversation with one’s fellows about affairs of importance or interest – past, present or future. The discussion can at times become debate, or fierce argument...History is not a concept but an activity – an activity of a unique kind...History is...best understood as an endless debate, constituting an important part of the continuing conversation of mankind [sic].96

Contemporary historians then continue to press forward by contemplating increasingly complex questions. Perhaps it is in conversation with the broader discipline of history and philosophy of history that historians of ancient Israel will find acceptable foundations for a new paradigm.97 Historiography in general, and historiography of ancient Israel specifically, finds itself at an extended crossroad, in need of an agreed-upon historiographic framework. In establishing this framework, the discipline must acknowledge the tradition upon which it stands; it must acknowledge the corrective challenges that have and continue to modify that tradition; it must push that tradition to ask itself challenging questions; it must reformulate itself to meet its current “depression + conduct disorder but do not have ADHD”. This is a more accurate representation of the presentation clinicians must deal with in community settings. Finding “pure” examples of a single diagnosis is uncommon. Therefore, in the current study, a child was listed as having a diagnosis if he/she met the criteria for that diagnosis and regardless of the other diagnoses for which he/she might have qualified.


96 Stanford, An Introduction to the Philosophy of History, preface, viii.

Figure Sample

“depression + conduct disorder but do not have ADHD”. This is a more accurate representation of the presentation clinicians must deal with in community settings. Finding “pure” examples of a single diagnosis is uncommon. Therefore, in the current study, a child was listed as having a diagnosis if he/she met the criteria for that diagnosis and regardless of the other diagnoses for which he/she might have qualified.

![Figure 2. Venn Diagram of Co-Morbid Disorders](image)

In addition to the PCAS diagnoses, Internalizing and Externalizing scores from the Child Behavior Checklist were used as indicators of “broadband-specific features” (Weiss, Susser, & Catron, 1998) rather than the narrowband-specific features represented by specific diagnostic categories. Measures of Internalizing and Externalizing behaviors function as indicators of what the parent/surrogate views as the primary problem. T scores for these two scales were used in analyses. These T scores reflect the deviation of all subjects from the mean of their respective normative (age and gender) groups in the same fashion without losing any statistical power (Achenbach, 1991).
References Sample

REFERENCES


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Majors listed in middle column below must be used on Title Page and Abstract

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