

The Department of Geography accepts theses in either monograph or integrated-article format

1. Monograph Format

The thesis should provide a coherent discussion of a central research problem, the work conducted and its contributions to the field of study and discipline.

The body of a monograph thesis is divided into various chapters and must contain the following elements:

- Introduction and chapter outline
- Literature Review
- Methods and Analysis
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusions
- Bibliography/References
- Appendices (copyright releases and ethics approval should be included where applicable)
- Curriculum Vitae

A monograph thesis should also contain the following:

- Title Page (provided by Scholarship@Western upon upload)
- Abstract and Keywords
- **Summary for lay audience (maximum 350 words) * effective July 2019**
- Co-Authorship (where applicable)
- Epigraph (optional)
- Dedication (optional)
- Acknowledgments (where applicable)
- Table of Contents
- List of Tables (where applicable)
- List of Figures (where applicable)
- List of Plates (where applicable)
- List of Appendices (where applicable)
- List of Abbreviations, Symbols, Nomenclature (where applicable)
- Preface (where applicable)

2. Integrated Article Format

The thesis should provide a coherent discussion of a central research problem, the work conducted and its contributions to the field of study and discipline. In general, an integrated article thesis is organized around a series of manuscripts written in a format suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed scholarly journal. These manuscripts must be bound by chapters that provide substantive context and synthesis. The manuscripts must contain connecting materials to provide logical bridges between them, thereby achieving an integration of information about a common research problem.

At the Masters level, an integrated article thesis must contain at least one manuscript (article). At the PhD level, an integrated article thesis must contain at least three manuscripts (articles). Manuscripts may be published, submitted or unpublished at the time of thesis submission. While these manuscripts may be co-authored, the candidate must be the principal author. Publication or acceptance for publication of manuscripts before presentation of the thesis in no way supersedes the University's evaluation and judgment of the work during the thesis examination process. In the case of co-authored manuscripts, the student must include a statement of authorship for each paper included in the thesis indicating the nature and extent of contributions by all authors.

The body of an integrated article thesis must contain the following sections or elements:

1. Introductory chapter(s). Provides a substantive context around the central problem, including the research objectives and a structure of the work to follow. These may include separate literature review and methodology chapters.
2. Manuscripts. Each is presented in an integrated-article format without an abstract, but with its own bibliography/references. There must be connecting text at the end of each manuscript that identifies the linkage to the subsequent chapter/manuscript.
3. Discussion and Conclusion. This section discusses the findings and implications of the separate studies to each other, to the common research problem, and to the relevant discipline or field of study. This section has its own bibliography/references.

An integrated article thesis should also contain the following:

- Title Page (provided by Scholarship@Western upon upload)
- Abstract and Keywords
- **Summary for lay audience (maximum 350 words) * effective July 2019**
- Co-Authorship (where applicable)
- Epigraph (optional)
- Dedication (optional)
- Acknowledgments (where applicable)
- Table of Contents
- List of Tables (where applicable)
- List of Figures (where applicable)
- List of Plates (where applicable)
- List of Appendices (where applicable)
- List of Abbreviations, Symbols, Nomenclature (where applicable)
- Preface (where applicable)
- Appendices:
This section to contain details of methodology, tabulated data, and other pertinent data not provided in detail in previous chapters. Ethics Approval (where applicable) and copyright releases from publications must be included here.
- Curriculum Vitae
Note: The bibliographies for each of the individual chapters should be in a consistent format throughout the thesis regardless of the citation formats of the journals in which the article has appeared or will appear. Tables and figures should appear in the text where they would be for publication.

**Updated:
November 2018
July 2019**