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MS/PhD Thesis Guidelines

THESIS TITLE (Font 21, Regular)



By (14, Italic)

Student Name

MS

In

<<Program Name>>

(17, Regular)

Name of the Faculty

Balochistan University of Information Technology,
Engineering and Management Sciences

(20, Regular)

Thesis Submitted <<e.g. Fall/Spring 2016>>

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THESIS SAMPLE

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MEDICINAL PLANTS OF BALOCHISTAN.

Thesis submitted to

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**BALOCHISTAN UNIVERSITY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
ENGINEERING & MANAGEMENT SCIENCES**

For the partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

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MASTERS OF SCIENCE (MS)

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In

DEPARTMENT NAME

By

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Supervisor

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Faculty Name, BUIITEMS.

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AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I _____ hereby state that my MS/PhD thesis entitled

is my own original work and has not been submitted previously by me for award of any degree from Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering & Management Sciences, Quetta or elsewhere in the country/world.

At any time, even after my graduation, if the above statement is found incorrect, the university has the right to withdraw my MS/PhD degree.

Name of Student and
signature:

Date:

PLAGIARISM UNDERTAKING

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I solemnly declare that research work I have submitted in the thesis titled
“.....”
.....”

Page Number
Roman &
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is my own research work with no significant contribution from any other person. Small contribution/help wherever taken has been duly acknowledged and that complete thesis has been written by me.

I understand the zero-tolerance policy of the HEC and Balochistan University of Information Technology, Engineering & Management Sciences, Quetta towards plagiarism. Therefore I, as an author of the above titled thesis, declare that no portion of

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my thesis has been plagiarized and any material used as reference is properly referred to.

I undertake that if found guilty of any formal plagiarism in the above titled thesis even after award of MS/PhD degree, the University reserves the rights to withdraw/revoke my MS/PhD degree and that HEC and the University has the right to publish my name on the HEC/University website on which names of students are placed who submitted plagiarized thesis.

Student /Author Signature: _____

Name: _____

CERTIFICATE BY THE SUPERVISOR

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It is to certify that the experimental work described in this thesis; submitted by Type Your name. has been carried out under my direct supervision. I have personally gone through the raw data and certify the correctness/authenticity of all results reported herein. I further certify that this data has not been used in part or full in a manuscript already submitted or in process of submission, by a student under my supervision, in partial or complete fulfillment of the award of any other degree from this or any other institution at home or abroad. I also certify that this manuscript has been prepared under my supervision and I endorse its evaluation for the award of -----degree through the official procedure of faculty/university.

Name of Supervisor: [Click here to enter text.](#)

Signature of the Supervisor _____

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Date -----

CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that the research work presented in this thesis, entitled
“.....”
.....”

was conducted by Mr. under the supervision of
.....

No part of this thesis has been submitted anywhere else for any other degree. This thesis is submitted to
the..... (Name of Department of the University)..... in partial fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Field of
..... (Subject Name).....

Department of

University of:

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Student Name _____

Signature:-----

External Examiner: Name
(Designation & Office Address)

Signature:_____

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.....
.....

Supervisor Name:

Signature:_____

Name of HOD:

Signature:_____

Name of Dean:

Signature:_____

DEDICATION

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To my beloved mother and father

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LIST OF TABLES

Table 1: Steps in creating a table..... Error! Bookmark not defined.

Table 2: Styles used in this template Error! Bookmark not defined.

You can generate the List of Tables automatically using the REFERENCE tools in Word. Follow this sequence: "Insert," then "Reference," followed by "Index and Tables," select "Table of Figures," and set the "Caption Label" to "Tables," then click "OK." As you make revisions to your thesis, simply right-click and select "Update Field" to refresh the list. This method eliminates the need to manually copy, paste, or retype your chapter and section titles.

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LIST OF FIGURES

*Figure 1: Example photo with high resolution. Caption created with “insert, reference, caption, figure” and the style changed to “thesis-figure caption.”..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.***

*Figure 2: Example of high resolution graphic inserted with “paste special, as enhanced metafile”**Error! Bookmark not defined.***

Similar to table of contents, you can generate the List of Figures can be generated automatically using Word’s REFERENCE tools. The steps are: "Insert," then "Reference," followed by "Index and Tables," select "Table of Figures," and set the “Caption Label” to "Figures," then click "OK." You can update this as you revise your thesis by right-clicking and choosing "Update Field." This approach avoids the need to manually copy, paste, or retype chapter and section titles.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

◀---▶ Those usually acknowledged include: God, one's advisor, one's better half, parents, children, friends, classmates, lab-mates, lab technicians, lab assistants etc.

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ABSTRACT

←--→ The abstract is a brief summary of the entire thesis, typically ranging from 300-350 words for MS and 350-450 words for PhD thesis. The abstract should be written as a single paragraph without citations, tables, or figures. It should follow a clear structure, comprising a brief introduction or background and rationale of the study. After stating the main objectives of the study, the student should describe the methodology or approach used. This is followed by the key findings and overall significance of the research, including any implications or recommendations for future work. Avoid jargon and overly technical terms to ensure accessibility for a broad academic audience. Keywords may be required at the end to aid in indexing, and students should choose 4-6 relevant terms. Finally, it is important to ensure the abstract is within the required word limit, addresses all key components, and avoids redundancy by not repeating sections from the main thesis text.

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CHAPTER I INTRODUCTION

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CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

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Heading 1

The Introduction chapter should provide background information on the context of the research, and clearly state the research problem. It states why this study is important, what gap it aims to fill, and how it contributes to the existing body of knowledge. The logical flow will therefore include:

- Start by introducing the broader topic of your research and providing enough background to help the reader understand the general subject area.
- Clearly define the specific problem or gap in knowledge that your research addresses. Explain why this problem is important and how it impacts the field. The problem statement should guide the reader toward understanding the need for your study.
- After stating the Research problem, outline the research questions or hypotheses your study aims to answer. Clearly define the objectives of your research, particularly focusing on what you hope to achieve through the study.
- Discuss the importance of your research and its potential contribution to the field. Highlight how your study fills gaps in the existing literature, addresses a particular challenge, or offers new insights. Consider the practical or theoretical significance of your work.
- Briefly explain the scope of your research. What are the boundaries of your study (e.g., geographical, temporal, conceptual)?

Checklist for Reviewing the Introduction:

- Does the introduction provide a clear background and context for the research?
- Is the research problem well defined, and is its significance clearly explained?
- Are the research questions, hypotheses, and objectives clearly stated?
- Does the introduction effectively outline the rationale for the study and its potential contributions?
- Is the scope of the study clearly delineated, and are any limitations acknowledged?

**CHAPTER II
LITERATURE REVIEW**

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CHAPTER II: LITERATURE REVIEW

The Literature Review chapter provides a critical evaluation of existing research related to the thesis topic. It helps to establish what is already known, identifies gaps or inconsistencies in the current knowledge, and demonstrates how your research fits into the broader academic conversation. The review should lead logically to the formulation of your research questions or hypotheses.

A well-organized literature review typically follows a clear structure:

- Begin with a brief introduction that explains the purpose of the literature review and how it relates to your research. Define the scope of the review by stating which topics or themes you will cover and why these are relevant to your study.
- Structure the review by themes and concepts. One way of doing this is to group related studies together, showing how they relate to each other and to your work.
- Critically analyze and synthesize the findings from the studies you review. Highlight key findings, patterns, and debates within the literature. Point out any gaps, inconsistencies, or areas of disagreement.
- Clearly link the literature to your own research. Explain how the studies reviewed support or contrast with your approach.
- Conclude the literature review by summarizing the key points and leading into your research questions or objectives. This section should logically transition to the next chapter, where you present your research methodology or conceptual framework.

Considerations:

- Ensure your review covers the most relevant and up-to-date research related to your topic.
- A balanced review of the literature, presenting differing perspectives and findings is a key to good literature Review. Avoid being biased toward studies that support your own viewpoint.
- Use credible, peer-reviewed literature sources.
- A literature review should not just list what other researchers have done but also evaluate the quality and relevance of their work.
- Ensure that each section of the review is directly linked to your own research questions or hypotheses. Don't leave the reader guessing how the literature relates to your study.

Checklist for Reviewing the Literature Review:

- Does the review provide a comprehensive and critical overview of relevant research?
- Is the review well-organized?
- Are the sources credible, up-to-date, and properly cited?

Chapter II. Literature Review

- Does the review clearly identify gaps in the literature and justify the need for your study?
- Does the literature review effectively lead to your research questions, objectives, or hypotheses?

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CHAPTER III METHODOLOGY

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CHAPTER III: METHODOLOGY

The Methodology chapter should provide enough detail for another researcher to replicate your study or at least understand the process clearly. This chapter should manifest the appropriateness of the methods used to answer your research questions or test your hypotheses, ensuring that the research is reliable and valid. The students are expected to:

- Introduce the research design and approach.
- Describe the overall design of your study (e.g., experimental, survey, case study, ethnographic, etc.).
- Clearly explain whether your research is qualitative, quantitative, or mixed-methods and why this approach is appropriate for your research questions.
- Define the population from which the sample was drawn.
- Explain the sampling method (e.g., random, stratified, convenience, purposive) and justify its appropriateness.
- State the sample size and provide a rationale for why this size is sufficient for the study.
- Specify any criteria used to include or exclude participants from the study.
- Describe how participants were recruited or how the sample was selected.
- Describe the methods used to collect data in detail.
- List and describe any tools, instruments, or equipment used to collect data (e.g., scales, laboratory equipment, software). If you used any standardized tests, surveys, or measuring devices, provide details about their reliability and validity.
- Clearly explain the step-by-step process followed during data collection. Be specific about how, when, and where the data was gathered. Ensure that your description of the procedures is detailed enough that another researcher could replicate your study.
- Explain data analysis methods
- **Provide** the ethical guidelines followed during the research. This includes how you obtained informed consent from participants, ensured confidentiality and anonymity, and minimized any potential harm to participants. If you sought approval from an ethics committee, mention this here.

Checklist for Reviewing the Methodology:

- Have you clearly described the research design and justified its appropriateness?
- Is the sample and sampling method adequately described and appropriate for the study?
- List of equipment, tools, Chemicals
- Are the data collection methods and processes detailed enough for replication?
- Is the process of data analysis fully explained and justified?

CHAPTER IV
RESULTS

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CHAPTER IV: RESULTS

The Results chapter presents the data and findings from your study. Please ensure:

- That the results are presented in a logical order. Jumping back and forth between different results can confuse the reader.
- All figures and tables are labeled and numbered sequentially. Use clear, descriptive titles that convey the content of the table or figure.
- Figures and tables are placed as close as possible to the text that refers to them. Always mention the table or figure in the text before presenting it.
- Informative captions for all figures and tables, so they can stand alone without additional explanation.
- Not presenting the same data in both a table and a figure. Choose the format that best conveys the information.
- Avoiding interpretation or discussion in the Results chapter. Many students make the mistake of combining the Results and Discussion chapters, but these should be kept separate.
- Avoid presenting unnecessary details or raw data that don't add value to your research findings.
- Even if your hypothesis was not supported or some tests were non-significant, it is important to report these results to provide a full picture of your research.

Checklist for Reviewing the Results Chapter:

- Have you presented the data in a clear, logical order?
- Have you ensured that all tables and figures are labeled, numbered, and mentioned in the text?
- Are the findings presented objectively, without interpretation or discussion?
- Have you included both significant and non-significant results?
- Have you avoided unnecessary repetition or redundancy in presenting the data?

CHAPTER V
DISCUSSION

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CHAPTER V: DISCUSSION

The Discussion chapter is where you interpret findings, explain their significance, and place them in the broader context of research field. It's opportunity to show how research contributes to the existing body of knowledge, addresses the research questions, and relates to the hypotheses or objectives.

The student should begin with a brief summary of the main findings of study. This should not be a repetition of the Results chapter but rather a concise restatement of the key outcomes to set the context for the discussion. We expect the students to:

- Analyze and interpret the findings in relation to research questions, objectives, or hypotheses. What do the results suggest? Were hypotheses supported? Why or why not.
- Compare results to those of previous studies discussed in literature review. Do findings confirm, contradict, or extend what is already known? Provide specific references to relevant literature to support interpretation.
- If any of results were unexpected, provide a possible explanation. What factors may have contributed to these findings?
- Highlight any patterns or relationships revealed by results. This could include correlations, trends over time, or key differences between groups.
- Discuss implications of findings as to how they contribute to the theoretical framework of field. Do they support or challenge existing theories? If applicable, explain how these results could be applied in practice.
- Emphasize how research fills gaps in the existing literature or provides new insights into the research problem. Show why work is important.
- Highlight the strengths of the study. Be honest about the limitations of your study. These could include sample size, data collection methods, or external factors that may have influenced the results. Acknowledging limitations enhances the credibility of work. Propose ways in which future research could overcome the limitations you encountered. This may involve using different methods, larger samples, or more precise measurements.
- Based on findings, suggest areas for future research. Are there questions that remain unanswered? What further studies could be conducted to expand on results? Highlight new research questions that emerged from study.
- interpretation should be grounded in the data presented in the Results chapter. Ensure that all interpretations are backed by evidence from study or the literature. Avoid making unsupported assertions.
- Negative or non-significant results are just as important as significant ones. Discuss what they might mean and how they fit into the broader context of research.

Checklist for Reviewing the Discussion Chapter, among others, include the following:

- Have you discussed the novelty/significance of findings?
- Have you compared your findings with previous studies and theoretical frameworks?
- Have you explained both expected and unexpected results and accounted for both?
- Have you discussed the practical and theoretical implications of the present work?
- Have you acknowledged the limitations of the study?
- Have you suggested directions for future research?

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CHAPTER VI
CONCLUSION

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CHAPTER VI. CONCLUSION

The Conclusion is your final opportunity to emphasize the main findings of your study, link them back to your research objectives, and show how your work contributes to the broader field. The students are expected to include the following in the recommendation section:

Begin by revisiting the objectives or research questions set out in the introduction. Briefly remind the reader what your study aimed to achieve. Provide a summary of main results and how they address the research objectives or questions. Highlight the most important insights without going into detailed explanations (which have already been covered in the Results and Discussion chapters).

Explain the broader significance of your findings. How do they contribute to the existing body of knowledge or the practical field?

Briefly mention any limitations of your study, as this adds credibility to your work.

End your conclusion on a strong note. This can be done by emphasizing the overall value of your research, the potential for future development, or the broader impact your study could have in its respective field.

Checklist for Reviewing the Conclusion Chapter:

- Have you restated the research objectives or questions?
- Have you clearly summarized the main findings?
- Have you linked your findings to the stated objectives?
- Have you discussed the broader theoretical and practical implications of your research?
- Did you acknowledge any limitations of your study?
- Have you suggested areas for future research?

REFERENCES

For referencing, students are expected to follow the latest APA style for citations and references throughout the thesis. However, the use of IEEE referencing style is also permitted, depending on the preference or relevance to the specific field of study. Ensure that the chosen citation style is consistent throughout the document, and always consult the respective style guidelines for proper formatting.

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APPENDICES

In addition to appendices related to your manuscript, first attach similarity index report of your thesis duly signed by the student and the supervisor along with the certificate from Director QE&A.

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