

Department of Biochemistry
Faculty of Science
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

MSc in Biochemical and Biomedical Sciences
BBB6220 MSc Project

GUIDELINES FOR THE MASTER THESIS (on both literature review and experimental work, except where otherwise specified)

The thesis is a report of your literature study undertaken during the second year of the programme. The master thesis should present the results of your original literature research. It must have a major theme with all the past and present information about the subject you are researching, and the results of your analysis and your point of view on the subject. The thesis is expected to be a serious effort by you involving comprehensive literature research. Students should expect to write up about 50 pages or 5,000-10,000 words excluding Tables, Figures, Appendices and References as a general guideline. Only words in the main text are counted. The thesis partially represents your scholarly works and should be carefully and professionally prepared.

Plagiarism

Care has to be carried out when writing your thesis, particularly in citing others' works. Absolutely no copying word-by-word from other articles is allowed in the academic world. Proper citation of others' works is necessary. The University has provided detail information on plagiarism in her website with the following link:

<http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/p01.htm>

Students are urged to read the information carefully before preparing his/her thesis. Besides, a declaration related to the issue should be included in your thesis to signify your understanding and practicing of the University guidelines and regulations. An example of such declaration is shown in the Appendix.

Structure of the Dissertation (see example in Appendix)

1. Sections:

Title Page

- Title of the dissertation, the name of the student, Division (i.e. Biochemistry), the name of the programme (i.e. Master of Science in Biochemical and Biomedical Sciences), month and year of submission, name of Supervisor and specific statements should be included.

Acknowledgements

- (Optional) If you have anyone who you want to pay gratitude, such as respondents/participants, organization, research supervisor etc.

Abstract

- Approximately 250 words providing a summary of the research including background to the study, main results, implications, etc.
- Provide both English and Chinese abstracts

Contents Page

- Include page numbers and chapters.
- List of tables and list of figures.
- The word count and referencing style should be included on this page.

Introduction and Literature Review

- This chapter should concisely set the literature research in context and state the objective to be reviewed. The current status of knowledge concerning the objective(s) should be described. Relevant references should be used to bring out the points with proper citation.
- Establish the significance of the review and how your study can add knowledge to food science & technology or human nutrition.

Objectives (experimental only)

- Spell out specific objectives of your experimental work
- and/ or specific information to find out
- and/or specific research questions to answer
- and/or specific hypothesis to test

Methods (experimental only)

- A logical account and description of the methods used with references cited
- Consider the experimental design in your overall experiment
- The statistics used in your study
- Data collection, instrumentation
- Pilot study: validity and reliability of the measurements and observations

Results (experimental only)

- A brief description of the subjects and materials
- Descriptive statistics for the results
- Description of the results and the evidence in terms of tables, figures verbatim accounts of Interviews or observations. Raw data should be included in the appendices if appropriate. No interpretation of the findings should normally be included in this section but some description should be given of tables and graphs. If the research is based on qualitative data the findings and discussion may be included together but this decision should be made clear

Discussion

- Interpretation of factual data and some speculations.
- Do search results enable you to achieve specific objectives?
- How are the factual results compared with each others; any contradictions or consistency; any reasons for the observation?
- Any new knowledge or findings generated from your review and suggestions for future investigation.
- Any limitations of the review.

Conclusions and Recommendations

- Summarize what have been achieved and your conclusions about the review.
- Give recommendations where appropriate based on findings of your study.

Appendices

- Include information that adds to the understanding of the main text.

References /Bibliography

- Sample: S Cociancich, A Ghazi, C Hetru, JA Hoffmann and L Letellier (1993) Insect defensin, an inducible antibacterial peptide, forms voltage-dependent channels in *Micrococcus luteus*. *Journal of Biological Chemistry* 268: 19239-19245.
- Sample: KF Wu, YT Zhang and MY WAYE (2007) Fiber-optic Nano-biosensors and Near-field Scanning Optical Microscopy for Biological Imaging. *Advanced Bioimaging Technologies in Assessment of the Quality of Bone and Scaffold Materials - Techniques and Applications* ed. by L Qin, HK Genant, JF Griffith, KS Leung. 1 ed. pp.191-204. Springer.

2. Format

i) Paper size

- The dissertation should be typewritten in English on international A4 size paper (210 mm x 297 mm).
- The dissertation should be typed or printed on one side of the paper only.

ii) Margins

- The margin at the binding edge should be at least 4 cm, and the margin at the outer edge, 2.5 cm.

iii) Spacing

- Double or one-and-a-half spacing should be used, except for quotations, footnotes, references and captions, which may be single-spaced.

iv) Pagination

- All pages, except the title page, should be numbered.
- Small Roman numerals (i, ii, iii, ...) are used for the preliminaries (e.g. Abstract, Acknowledgement, Table of Contents).
- Arabic numbers (1, 2, 3, ...) are used for the text, Appendices and Bibliography.

Remarks:

1. All students should hand in the project report by the end of April.
2. Two hard copies and one soft copy should be submitted to the Programme. Both hard copies should be spiral bound. A copy of the dissertation will be placed in the Programme.
3. Consult a proof-reading service is advised for better grammar, sentence construction, spelling and general presentation.
4. Number of Words - The thesis should not exceed 10,000 words in the main text, excluding References and Appendices. One grade will be reduced if the word limit is exceeded. Thesis without the word count will not be accepted for submission.

[TITLE]

[NAME OF THE STUDENT]

A literature review submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for
the degree of Master of Science in
Biochemical and Biomedical Sciences in the
Department of Biochemistry
Faculty of Science

The Chinese University of Hong Kong
[MONTH AND YEAR OF SUBMISSION]

Supervisor: [NAME OF SUPERVISOR]

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I declare that the thesis here submitted is original except for source material explicitly acknowledged. I also acknowledge that I am aware of University policy and regulations on honesty in academic work, and of the disciplinary guidelines and procedures applicable to breaches of such policy and regulations, as contained in the website <http://www.cuhk.edu.hk/policy/academichonesty/>

Signature

Date

Name

Student ID

Thesis title

ABSTRACT
(English version)

Seafood is

摘要

海產的風味是..... ◦

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Absorbance	Ab
Alcohol	ROH
Bromophenol	BP
Correlation	R ²
Fatty acid	FA
Infra-red	IR
Maillard reaction	MRx
Thin-layer chromatography	TLC
Very low-density lipoprotein	VLDL

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

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