

PURPOSE OF THE THESIS

The Thesis is an institutional opportunity in which the student can demonstrate their ability to think critically and to process the theoretical and professional experiences acquired during the course of study.

The Bachelor's Thesis consists of "a written dissertation of a theoretical–applied–experimental nature"; therefore, it must represent a learning opportunity consistent with the educational objectives of the degree program and relevant to the specific professional profile.

TYPES OF THESIS

1. Literature Review Thesis (Compilative Thesis):

These are bibliographic reviews aimed at describing a specific scientific topic and how various authors have demonstrated it.

2. Experimental Thesis:

A detailed description of a scientific research project in which the student has actively participated.

SUPERVISOR–STUDENT ROLE

The Supervisor must be a lecturer of the Degree Course (CdS).

The Thesis Supervisor receives the thesis proposal from the student and guides them toward a well-reasoned and feasible choice; assigns tasks necessary for drafting the thesis; and guides and monitors the work.

It is the student's responsibility to draft the thesis under supervision: conducting the literature search, collecting data, processing the collected data, and actively participating in the case of experimental research.

THESIS SUBMISSION

- 1 printed copy for the Supervisor
- 1 printed copy for the student
- 1 digital copy in PDF format on CD for the Student Administration Office

All copies must be originally signed on the title page by the Supervisor.

All copies of the thesis must be delivered to the relevant contacts at least one week before the defense date.

PHASES OF THESIS PREPARATION

PHASE I – GUIDELINES

Expected timeframe

- Literature review thesis: approximately 1-3 months

- Experimental/research thesis: 3 months – 1 year

Choosing the topic

Choosing the Supervisor

Motivation and interest for further study may arise from:

- Professional internship
- Personal experiences and readings
- Literature review
- Classroom lessons
- Proposals from lecturers

Criteria for choosing the topic:

The topic must be:

- Sufficiently well-defined
- Relevant
- Original
- Feasible
- Consistent with the course of study

It is essential to refer to the specific professional dimension.

Once the topic has been selected, the student should contact the lecturer whose expertise is closest to the subject and ask for their availability.

PHASE II – GUIDELINES

Definition of the topic

Collection of materials

Thesis project

Before defining the topic to be addressed, it is necessary to conduct a bibliographic search in order to:

- Clarify and better delimit the topic and the objectives of the work
- Complete an overall view of the materials
- Understand the state of Italian and international research on the subject
- Develop an initial structure of the work

Where to search?

- University and Hospital Libraries
- Institutes/Departments/Clinics
- Bookstores

- Specialized Centers

How to search?

- Search by author
- Search by subject
- Search by topic
- Databases (www.pubmed.com)

Primary sources: often in English

Secondary sources: sources cited and interpreted by others

Develop an outline of the structure of the work (thesis project) and discuss it with the Supervisor.

This is a two- or three-page document that must include:

- a) Definition of the problem and keywords, and its relevance;
- b) The objectives of the Thesis;
- c) Materials and methods: in experimental theses, this includes instruments, sample, procedure, etc.; in literature review theses, it includes the definition of the methods used to analyze the problem;
- d) The table of contents, which at this stage is a dynamic tool and includes a provisional plan of the work to be carried out; it will later be modified.

Once the project has been drafted, it will be discussed with the future Supervisor.

At this stage, the lecturer's advice helps to better structure the research and study work.

Relationship with the Lecturer

Learning Agreement between Student and Lecturer:

- Agree on the timeline for producing the work
- Set deadlines for (regular) meetings and the location
- Send the complete computerized chapters of the work to the Supervisor (1.5 line spacing) at least 2 weeks before the scheduled meeting
- Always provide a summary table of contents of the work

PHASE III – Writing the Thesis

Final structure of the work:

- Cover page + heading (external and internal)
- Table of contents
- Introduction
- Theoretical framework (literature review)
- Materials and methods
- Results and conclusion

- General bibliography
 - Appendix/attachments
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PHASE IV – Critical Revision

a) Title:

- Does it contain the keyword?
- Does it correspond to the contents?

b) Structure of the work:

- Are the divisions of the text logical?
- Are the sections proportionate?

c) Introduction:

- Is the subject or theme clearly stated?
- Are the objectives declared?
- Is the structure of the work outlined?

d) Body or central part:

- Is it thorough and comprehensive in terms of content?
- Is the content structured and well connected?
- Are problematic points highlighted?
- Are bibliographic sources used correctly?

e) Conclusion:

- Are the results summarized?
- Are critical elements, open issues, or new research directions highlighted?

f) Bibliography:

- Is it sufficient?
 - Is it complete and well organized?
 - Is it formally correct?
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Proofreading

It is necessary to review your work several times and at different levels. For example:

- Writing style
- Spelling (preferably checked by another person)
- Punctuation (preferably checked by another person)

- Page sequence check
 - Typing/printing errors
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Printing

Take the available time into account when planning the final printing.

It is advisable to contact a copy shop in advance to ensure printing is completed within a reasonable timeframe.

GUIDELINES FOR WRITING THE THESIS

The thesis is organized into chapters, sections, and subsections, just like a textbook.

Typically, a Bachelor's Thesis includes the following structure:

- **Abstract** (a concise version of the research project);
- **An introductory chapter** (context, background data, theories, description of the problem; applied interests, scientific basis, state of the art, critical literature review);
- **A chapter dedicated to the research work** (research hypotheses, description of the project phases, required resources, innovative aspects, objectives, methods, content of the work);
- **Results**
- **Conclusions** (from hypotheses to conclusions, future developments);
- **Bibliography.**

The Abstract

The Abstract must present the work clearly and concisely, justify its purpose, and immediately state the chosen methods of analysis.

The abstract is written at the end of the work. Indeed, only at the end can the graduating student have a comprehensive view of their path and describe it clearly.

The first draft should include (at least in broad terms):

- A brief description of the context
 - The reasons why the work was undertaken
 - Expectations
 - Initial data and research
 - The proposed pathway, etc.
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The Conclusion

The role of the conclusion is to “draw together” the results of the research, clearly stating what the study sought to demonstrate and to what extent this objective was achieved.

The conclusion builds upon the introduction. By revisiting the original objectives and expectations set at the beginning of the research, it provides an assessment of what has been accomplished and what remains to be done.

In the conclusions, the student must highlight:

- Expectations that were met and those that were not
- Objectives achieved and not achieved
- The most significant findings

It should also leave open the possibility of continuing the research by suggesting potential future developments.

EDITORIAL GUIDELINES

Format

The format is that of a standard document page:

- A4 size
- Recommended font: Times New Roman, 12/14 pt
- Line spacing: 1.5

The maximum number of lines per page should be 25–30 lines, with the following margins:

- Left: 4 cm
- Right: 2.5 cm
- Top and bottom: 3 cm

All pages must be numbered consecutively, either at the top or bottom center.

The cover page and the table of contents should not be numbered.

The cover must be produced in duplicate:

- The first copy printed in leather or cloth binding
- The second copy (internal title page) must be signed by both the Supervisor and the student before submission of the thesis

Printing may be double-sided or single-sided.

The minimum length of the completed thesis should be 50 pages.

Illustrations and Tables

Tables, figures, and other graphics must be included in the text as close as possible to the point where they are cited.

Tables must:

- Be numbered progressively, usually with Roman numerals (I, II, III, etc.)

- Be referenced within the text
- Have a title
- Be sufficiently clear
- Not exceed the margins of the text body

Tables or graphs should be used only for the most significant aspects (2–3 tables maximum).

Bibliographic Citations

GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY AT THE END OF THE THESIS

The list of references used must be arranged in alphabetical order, on numbered pages, and cited in the table of contents.

How should sources be written?

According to the rules reported in the **Index Medicus**.

Typically, the order is:

- Authors' names
- Title of the article
- Journal of publication, followed by detailed information

Journals

- Journal name: in italics
- Follow the punctuation conventions

Example:

8 = volume (usually in bold)

(6) = issue number (may be omitted)

510–522 = article pages (510 is the first page; 522 is the last page)

Example:

Gerber B.I., ... (from 3 to 6 authors) et al. Microvascular obstruction and left ventricular remodeling early after acute myocardial infarction. *Circulation* 2000; 101(8):2734–41.

Books

Journals may be cited in full or using the standardized abbreviations found in the INDEX, provided the same method is used consistently throughout the bibliography.

Example:

Ferrata A, Storti E, Mauri C. *Le malattie del sangue* (2nd ed.). Milan: Vallardi, 2001, p. 74.