

<https://www.uottawa.ca/graduate-studies/students/theses/writing>

### Thesis as a series of articles

A significant number of thesis, especially in the sciences, engineering and medicine, consist of a series of articles or, very rarely, a single article. Each individual academic unit decides which format is suitable for its discipline, so before the student embarks on the thesis, he or she should check with the academic unit to see what format is accepted.

Some thesis may be a combination of a monograph thesis and a series of articles. Whether the students are preparing a monograph thesis or a thesis consisting of a series of articles, they should keep the required elements in mind throughout the planning, research and writing phases of preparing the thesis.

### Components of a thesis in a series of articles

- introductory chapter
- at least one research article for a master's thesis
- at least three research articles for a doctoral thesis
- a synthesis and conclusion which integrates the material addressed in the articles and provides a global summary and analysis

Depending on the structure of subsequent chapters, it may be appropriate and desirable for the introductory chapter to review extant literature and discuss methodological issues germane to understanding the research questions and/or results reported in the articles or chapters that follow.

### Ethics and collaboration

If the research embodied in the article or articles required approval of an ethics board or was part of a collaboration, this must be spelled out in a preface. In this preface or statement, the student must indicate what ethics approvals were secured and give a detailed account of the contributions of collaborators and/or co-authors which clearly distinguishes the contributions of this student from those of all other collaborators or co-authors, and identifies in detail all other contributions.

### Copyright

The student must get permission to use copyrighted material from any co-authors as well as from publishers.