

Recommended thesis outline:

Cover page with MedUni Wien logo

Declaration (numerated as ii) regarding where the work was done (Institutes, laboratories) and what part of the work was carried out by people other than the student (contributions of collaborators, technicians, and supervisors). The Declaration should also include a prominent disclosure of any algorithms used for translation, plagiarism prevention or improving the fluency and grammar of the text, thereby protecting students from any possible future accusations of deception.

Table of contents (iii and onwards), with no more than three numerated layers (i.e. 1.1.1 followed by 1.1.2, etc. Avoid 1.2.3.4 and instead consider italicizing further subtitles).

A prologue (2.1) should help the reader link the Introduction to the student's first paper, and additionally underline the student's specific contributions to the inserted published work. Similarly, the interludes (2.1.1 etc) should assist the student to link any subsequent papers to the previous ones, making for better reading but also reaffirming student contribution to the chronicled work.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

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According to EMBO J

APPENDIX followed by a CV

Explanations to writing a PhD thesis at Meduniwien:

First and foremost, four golden rules for avoiding plagiarism:

- 1) Inform yourself of the meaning of plagiarism, self plagiarism, and deceit of reviewers into thinking that you are presenting novel text and findings;
- 2) NEVER copy/paste, ANYWHERE in your thesis;
- 3) Remember, you have transferred your copyright to the publishers. Hence, you do not OWN anything associated with your previously published work, including your own results or methods;
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As the above outline indicates, a solid cumulative PhD thesis submitted to Meduniwien should extend to about 100 pages. Depending on student output,

the Results and M & M chapters will fluctuate in their lengths. However, 30 or so pages of Introduction and about ten to 20 pages of Discussion are expected to be included in the thesis, irrespective of the number of published papers and prepared manuscripts incorporated into the Results chapter.

A doctoral thesis is expected to contain text that is the intellectual product of the student. If, for any reason, a student feels that he or she must rely on an AI algorithm or a writing enhancement tool (Chat-GPT, Grammarly, Google Translate, DeepL, etc.) to translate, generate, or paraphrase texts, this must be indicated as such with an appropriate citation at the end of the relevant paragraph and in the Bibliography. While this indication will serve to defend the student against any claims of reviewer deception, there is no guarantee that the reviewers will be appreciative of ample AI-generated texts in the thesis. Accordingly, theses relying extensively on AI may fail to receive a positive evaluation by the reviewers. Students should note AI-detection algorithms will still recognise machine-generated texts even after being paraphrased by the authors, and that subsequent revised thesis submissions remain marked. Hence, students should be aware that relying on AI may incur a risk, which is solely their own, and it is therefore strongly recommended that they disclose all AI use in the Declaration, the List of Algorithms, the body of the text, and the Bibliography. It is not impossible that despite not using AI at all, due to algorithm error this might still be identified in your work. To remove any doubts, students should state clearly, and truthfully, in their Declaration that they have not used any AI, and that any such detection should be considered as erroneous on the part of the algorithm used.

For more information, please see <https://apastyle.apa.org/blog/how-to-cite-chatgpt>.

The algorithms and the pages where they were applied should be added to a dedicated list as follows:

Grammarly.....	i, ii, 15-73
ChatGPT.....	1-14, 74-95
DeepL.....	84-89
Yandex.....	100
Quillbot.....	1-153