

Recommended thesis outline:

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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).

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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Explanations to writing a PhD thesis at Meduniwien:

First and foremost, five 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;
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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 sparingly on an AI algorithm or a writing enhancement tool (Chat-GPT, Grammarly, Google Translate, DeepL, etc.) to generate text, this must be indicated as such with [square brackets], followed by a statement in the "Declaration" claiming this fact and the appropriate citation. 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 AI-generated text in the thesis. Accordingly, theses relying extensively on AI may fail to receive a positive evaluation by the reviewers.