

# FGCU Library Services

## Suggested Resources on Theses & Dissertations

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This guide is meant to help users locate resources on theses and dissertations that are available at Florida Gulf Coast University Library or in other State University Libraries in Florida. The guide is divided into five categories: handbooks and manuals, locating theses and dissertations, identifying theses and dissertations, bibliographies and style manuals. Books about the preparation and writing of theses or dissertations can also be identified in library catalogs through the following subject headings:

Dissertations, Academic  
Academic Writing  
Research Handbooks, Guides and  
manuals

Authorship  
Report Writing

### **HANDBOOKS & MANUALS**

The following is a short list of suggested sources on writing theses and dissertations.

Brown, R. (2006). *Doing your dissertation in business and management: The reality of researching and writing*. London: SAGE.

General Collection **LB2369 .B73 2006**

Davis, G.B., Parker, C.A. (1997). *Writing the doctoral dissertation: A systematic approach*. Hauppauge, N.Y.: Barron's.

General Collection **LB2369 .D357 1997**

Fitzpatrick, J. (1998). *Secrets for a successful dissertation*. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage Publications.

General Collection **LB2369 .F547 1998**

Garson, G.D. (2002). *Guide to writing empirical papers, theses, and dissertations*. New York: Marcel Dekker.

General Collection **LB2369 .G27 2002**

Glatthorn, A.A. (2005). *Writing the winning thesis or dissertation: A step-by-step guide*. Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Corwin Press.

General Collection **LB2369 .G56 2005**

Harman, E. (Ed.) (2003). *The thesis and the book: A guide for first-time academic authors*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press.

General Collection **Z286 .S37 T53 2003**

Higgins, R. (1996). *Approaches to research: A handbook for those writing a dissertation*. London, Jessica Kingsley Publishers.

General Collection **RC337 .H54 1996**

Holtom, D. (1999). *Enjoy writing your science thesis or dissertation: A step by step guide to planning and writing dissertations and these for undergraduate and graduate science students*. London: Imperial College Press; Singapore; River Edge, NJ: World Scientific.

General Collection **T11 .H582 1999**

Johnson, J. (1997). *The Bedford guide to the research process*. (3rd ed.) Boston: Bedford Books.

General Collection **LB2369 .J56 1997**

Krathwohl, David R. (2005). *How to prepare a dissertation proposal: Suggestions for students in education and the social and behavioral sciences*. Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse University Press.

General Collection **LB2369 .K723 2005**

# FGCU Library Services

## Suggested Resources on Theses & Dissertations

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Long, T.J. (1985). *Completing dissertations in the behavioral sciences and education.* San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

General Collection **LB2369 .L65 1985**

Luey, B. (Ed.) (2004). *Revising your dissertation: advice from leading editors.* Berkeley: University of California Press.

eResources- Search Library Catalog for title and click "Connect Now" to view.

Mauch, J.E. and Birch, J.W. (1998). *Guide to the successful thesis and dissertation: a handbook for students and faculty.* (4<sup>th</sup> ed.). NY: M. Dekker.

General Collection **LB2369 .M377 1998**

Mitchell, L. (1996). *The ultimate grad school survival guide.* Princeton, NJ: Peterson's.

General Collection **LB2371.4 .M58 1996** (See specifically Chapter 8: Your Thesis/Dissertation.)

Ogden, E.H. (1993). *Completing your doctoral dissertation or master's thesis in two semesters or less.* (2nd ed.) Lancaster, Pa.: Technomic Pub. Co.

General Collection **LB2369 .O33 1993**

Piantanida, M. (1999). *The qualitative dissertation: a guide for students and faculty.* Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Corwin Press.

General Collection **LB 2369 P48 1999**

Preece, R.A. (1994). *Starting research: an introduction to academic research and dissertation writing.* NY: St. Martin's Press.

General Collection **LB 2369 P69 1994**

Pyrzczak, F. (Ed.) (2000). *Completing your thesis or dissertation: Professors share their techniques and strategies.* Los Angeles, CA: Pyrczak Pub.

General Collection **LB2369 .C65 2000**

Rossmann, M.H. (1995). *Negotiating graduate school: a guide for graduate students.* Thousand Oaks, Calif.: Sage Publications.

General Collection **LB2371 .R67 1995** (See specifically Chapter 5: "The Proposal and the Thesis/Dissertation.")

Rudestam, K.E., Newton, R.R. (1992). *Surviving your dissertation: a comprehensive guide to content and process.* Newbury Park, Calif.: SAGE.

General Collection **LB2369 .R83 1992**

Sternberg, D. J. (1981). *How to complete and survive a doctoral dissertation.* NY: St. Martin's Press.

General Collection **LB2386 .S74 1981**

### **LOCATING THESES & DISSERTATIONS**

There are variations in the way masters' theses and dissertations are cataloged in library catalogs. In addition to cataloging by author, title and by the subject matter of the thesis, the type of work, i.e. thesis or dissertation, is also cataloged and searchable. In the FGCU catalog, a thesis is assigned the subject "Dissertations, academic" followed by a subheading for the university where the thesis was done. For example:

Dissertations, academic – Florida Atlantic University.

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## Suggested Resources on Theses & Dissertations

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Theses and dissertations held by other State Universities in Florida may be found in their online public catalogs a bit differently.

For example in the University of South Florida (USF) online library catalog, USF theses can be found by searching Dissertations, academic – USF.

1. e.g., to find USF masters theses in the adult education program:

Dissertations, academic -- USF -- adult education – masters

**OR**

Dissertations, academic -- USF -- adult education – doctoral

2. In the University of Florida (UF) online catalog, UF theses are found in this example:

Dissertations, academic -- UF -- College of Health Professions

3. In the University of Central Florida (UCF) online catalog, UCF theses can be found by searching simply the subject heading followed by a subheading for the department.

e.g.:

Dissertations, academic -- health and public affairs

Dissertations, academic -- health and professional studies

### **IDENTIFYING THESES & DISSERTATIONS**

**ProQuest Theses & Dissertations: A & I. (electronic format via Online Databases)** 1861 to present. Indexes most doctoral dissertations completed in the U.S. at accredited institutions for the last 150 years. Includes some master's theses (since 1988) and foreign language dissertations. Dissertations published from 1980 forward include 350- word abstracts written by the author. Master's theses published from 1988 forward include 150-word abstracts. Titles available as native or image PDF formats include free twenty-four page previews. UMI offers over 1.8 million titles for purchase in microform, paper or electronic formats.”

Searching is available by granting institutions arranged by state; or by subject area, then by state and granting institution.

#### **WorldCat Dissertations**

**A separate searchable database of all of the citations to dissertations found in the WorldCat database.**

Full-text of dissertations is sometimes linked from the record

**A copy of a dissertation or a master’s thesis can sometimes be borrowed through Interlibrary Loan. Some dissertations and theses are simply not available due to the granting university’s policies.**

### **BIBLIOGRAPHIES**

Abstracts of master's theses, 2005 Smith College School for Social Work. (2005). *Smith College Studies in Social Work* 75(4): 43-111. (see earlier volumes also)

# FGCU Library Services

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Nineteenth annual index of graduate theses and projects in allied health. *Journal of Allied Health* (1997)26, 4, 201-41. (see earlier volumes also)

FGCU Periodicals – **Microfilm R690 .J65**

Contains entries from 91 institutions, giving author, institution, year, degree, emphasis, discipline, and title, arranged by topic: allied health, biocommunication arts, child development/care, clinical psychology, dentistry, environmental health, exercise science, food service, health education, health services, medical laboratories, nurse anesthesia, nursing, nutrition/dietetics, occupational and physical therapy, rehabilitation counseling, respiratory therapy, and speech pathology/audiology.

### **STYLE MANUALS**

**Note:** Many style manuals and citation guides are now on the Worldwide Web. For some of those see under "Citation Style Manuals" at the FGCU Library Homepage (<http://library.fgcu.edu>).

American Sociological Association. (1997). *ASA style guide*. (2<sup>nd</sup>. ed.) Washington, D.C.: American Sociological Association.

**Reference Desk HM73 .A54 1997**

Amato, C.J. (2002). *The world's easiest guide to using the APA.* Westminster Calif.: Stargazer Publishing.

**Reference Desk BF76.7 .A62 1995**

APA-style helper [electronic resource] : software for new writers in the behavioral sciences. Vers. 5. (2005) .Washington, D.C. : American Psychological Association.

**Reference Desk BF 76.6 P832 2005.**

*Chicago manual of style*. (15th ed.) (2003). Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

**Reference Desk Z253 .U69 2003**

Gibaldi, J. (1998) *MLA style manual and guide to scholarly publishing*. (2nd ed.) NY: Modern Language Association of America.

**Dictionary Stand PN147 .G444 1998**

**Reference Desk PN147 .G444 1998**

Li, X. (1996) *Electronic styles: a handbook for citing electronic information.* (2nd ed.). Medford, N.J.: Information Today.

**Dictionary Stand PN171.F56 L5 1996**

**Reference PN171.F56 L5 1996**

*Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. (5th ed.) (2001). Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

**Dictionary Stand BF76.7 .P83 2001**

**Reference Desk BF76.7 .P83 2001**

**Reference BF76.7 .P83 2001**

Trimmer, J. F. (2006). *A guide to MLA documentation: with an appendix on APA style*. (7th ed.) Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

**Dictionary Stand PN174 .T75 2006**

Turabian, K. L. (1996) *A manual for writers of term papers, theses, and dissertations*. (6<sup>th</sup> ed.) Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

**Reference Collection LB2369 .T8 1996**