University Formatting Guidelines for
Electronic Theses and Dissertations

The Basics
University Formatting Guidelines

Where to find information:
GW ETD Website - library.gwu.edu/etd/formatting-content

Applies to:
Page Order: Entire document
Font Size: Entire document; see exceptions below
Page Margins: Entire document
Page Numbering: Entire document
Line Spacing: Entire document
Font Type and Size

Font Type and Size: Times New Roman, 12pt.

Exceptions to font size:

- Footnotes (same font type as text): no smaller than 8 point
- Figure and Table titles and captions: no smaller than 8 point
Page Order

FRONT PAGES
- Title Page (required)
- Certification Page (Dissertations only)
- Copyright page
- Dedication
- Acknowledgements
- Abstract of Thesis/Dissertation (required for dissertations)
- Table of Contents*
- List of Figures (required if used in manuscript)
- List of Tables (required if used in manuscript)
- List of Abbreviations, etc.
- Preface or Forward

BODY OF DOCUMENT
- Thesis Statement (If used)
- Chapters
- Bibliography or References
- Appendices
Page Margins

Portrait Pages:
- Left and Right Margins: 1.25 inches
- Top and Bottom Margins: 1 inch

Landscape Margins:
- Left and Right Margins: 1 inch
- Top and Bottom Margins: 1.25 inches

Tables and Figures:
- Right and left page margins for tables and figures – only - may be 1 inch.

To set your page margins, go to Layout/Margins and select Office 2003 Default.
Page Numbering

Page numbers are always at the bottom center of the page – ¾ of an inch from the bottom edge.

Formatting page numbers:

On the MS Ribbon:
- Go to the **Insert** tab
- Click on **Footer in Header** in the **Footer** section
- From the drop down menu, click on **Edit Footer**

In the **Header & Footer** section:
- Click on **Page Number**
- Select **Bottom of Page**, option **Plain number 2**.
On the Insert tab, click on Footer
 • In the Header & Footer section:
 • From the Footer drop down menu, select Edit Footer.
 • From the Page Number drop down menu, select Bottom of page and select the option labelled Plain number 2.

After the last page of the front pages, insert a section break.
Insert a Section Break

To change the page numbering for the main body of the document, insert a page break:

Breaks
Restarting the page numbering requires a new section break to be inserted into the document. At the bottom of the previous page, click on the Page Layout Tab on the Word Ribbon.

1. On the right-hand side of the Page Setup section, click on the drop down menu labelled Breaks.

2. On the drop-down menu, click on Breaks.

3. Under Section Breaks, select Next Page to start a new section on a new page.
Page Numbers – Main Document

- Arabic numbers
- Pages are numbered consecutively from the first page of the first Chapter (or Thesis Statement if used) to the end of the document including Appendices.
- After creating your section break, change the page number format to Arabic numerals

- Click on the radio button Start at and type in “1” and click on OK.
- Make sure the box next to Different First Page is unchecked.
Line Spacing

For the following pages, see the University Style Guide for your school for the correct line spacing:

Title page
Certification page
Copyright page

All other text is double spaced except for:

• Long Quotes
• Figure and Table titles and/or captions
• Footnotes and Endnotes
• Entries in the Bibliography or References
Converting Word / LaTeX to pdfs

**MS Word**

1. **Embed the fonts** when saving your Word document prior to converting the document to a pdf. **Embedding the fonts ensures the formatting of the Word document carries over to the pdf.**
   - File => Options => Save =>
   - Check the box next to Embed fonts in the file
   - The two boxes underneath should not be checked.
2. Convert document using the Adobe Acrobat converter in MS Word
3. Upload the Word Document file directly in your ETD account and ProQuest will do the conversion for you.

**LaTeX**

Use an editor for Windows computers such as **WinEDT**

1. Open your .tex file
2. Save your document in pdf archival format
3. Click on the PDFLaTeX icon
4. The PDF appears.
Converting Websites to PDF

Adobe Acrobat DC – How To