



UNIVERSITÀ
DI TRENTO



Dipartimento di
Biologia Cellulare, Computazionale e Integrata

Guidelines on dissertation writing

Master's degree in Cellular and Molecular Biotechnology

Final exam

Students are required to complete a graduation project at one of the Departments or Centres of the University of Trento, at other universities, or at other private or public organizations, in Italy or in another country. As part of the project, graduating students will also write a dissertation, and present and discuss in public the results obtained.

The dissertation should include the following parts:

- Title
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Objectives
- Materials and methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusions and future work
- Reference list

The abstract is a short summary, usually about 1 page in length, that provides the context and the objectives of the project, the techniques used and the results obtained. In case of collaborative work, here is where the graduating student gives details on his or her contribution to the study.

The introduction provides the background to the research work (at least 5 pages, not more than 10).

The objectives section sums up the purpose of the study, the question you want to answer, the key experiments that you have planned to find the answer (at least 1 page, not more than 2 pages).



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The materials and methods section describes the protocols you used in the lab (at least 10 pages, maximum 20 pages; if you need more pages, include an Appendix).

The results part describes all the experiments performed and provides their statistical analysis (at least 10, maximum 40 pages). If you want to provide replicates, include them in another appendix (Appendix II).

The discussion section contains a critical analysis of the results obtained and examines them in an international perspective (at least 5, maximum 10 pages).

The conclusions and future work section briefly summarizes the work done and outlines any future directions (at least 1 page, not more than 2 pages).

The reference list contains all the works cited in the dissertation.

Dissertation layout:

- Page format: A4
- Page margins: top and bottom 2 cm, left 1.5 cm, right 2.5 cm
- Main font: Times New Roman, 11pt
- Line spacing: 1
- Maximum 85 pages, excluding reference list and any appendices.