

Put It Together

EDHE6530

Dr. Pu-Shih Daniel Chen

Overview

- Review our progress
- Dissertation Style Guide
- Guide for Good Writing
- Chapter 4 & 5

A Quick Review

Chapter One

- Introduction/problem statement
- Purpose of the study
- Conceptual framework or theoretical orientation
- Research questions and hypotheses
- Definition of terms
- Significance of the study
- Limitations, delimitations, & assumptions

Key to a good literature review

- Always keep your research questions in mind
- Critically analyze the literature
- Integrate instead of summarize
- Use primary sources
- Distinguish between assertion and evidence

Other tips

- Don't ignore studies that differ from majority or personal bias
- Read most recent ones first, oldest last
- Read important landmark works
- Use data-based, empirical studies
- Opinion pieces and descriptive research helpful in introduction – set stage
- Not a literary production- be clear and concise

Research Article Analysis

- Purpose statement, research questions and hypotheses
- Summary of research articles
 - Which publication? Peer reviewed?
 - Quality of research method
 - Enough information for replication
 - Data analysis
 - Summary of research findings
 - Relevant to your research questions

Quantitative vs. Qualitative

- Philosophical understanding of the world
- Theoretical approach
- Role of the researcher(s)
- Data collection and analysis
- Quality controls
- Report of findings
- Types of studies
- How to choose between the two methods

Dissertation Proposal

- Chapter 2: Literature Review
- Chapter 3: Research Method
 - Research questions
 - Instrument(s)
 - Population, sample, subjects
 - Procedure for data collection
 - Data analysis

Common Mistakes

- Ignoring assumptions for a specific method
- Conducting multiple t-tests without Bonferroni correction
- Misusing Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA)
- Inferring casual relationship in a correlational study

Other Mistakes

- Not reporting the quality measures of your instrument
- Ignoring the problems of missing data
- Ignoring the problems of self-selection bias
- Using statistical methods that you don't really understand

Do you remember?

**Someone who read your chapter 3
should be able to....**

Do you remember?

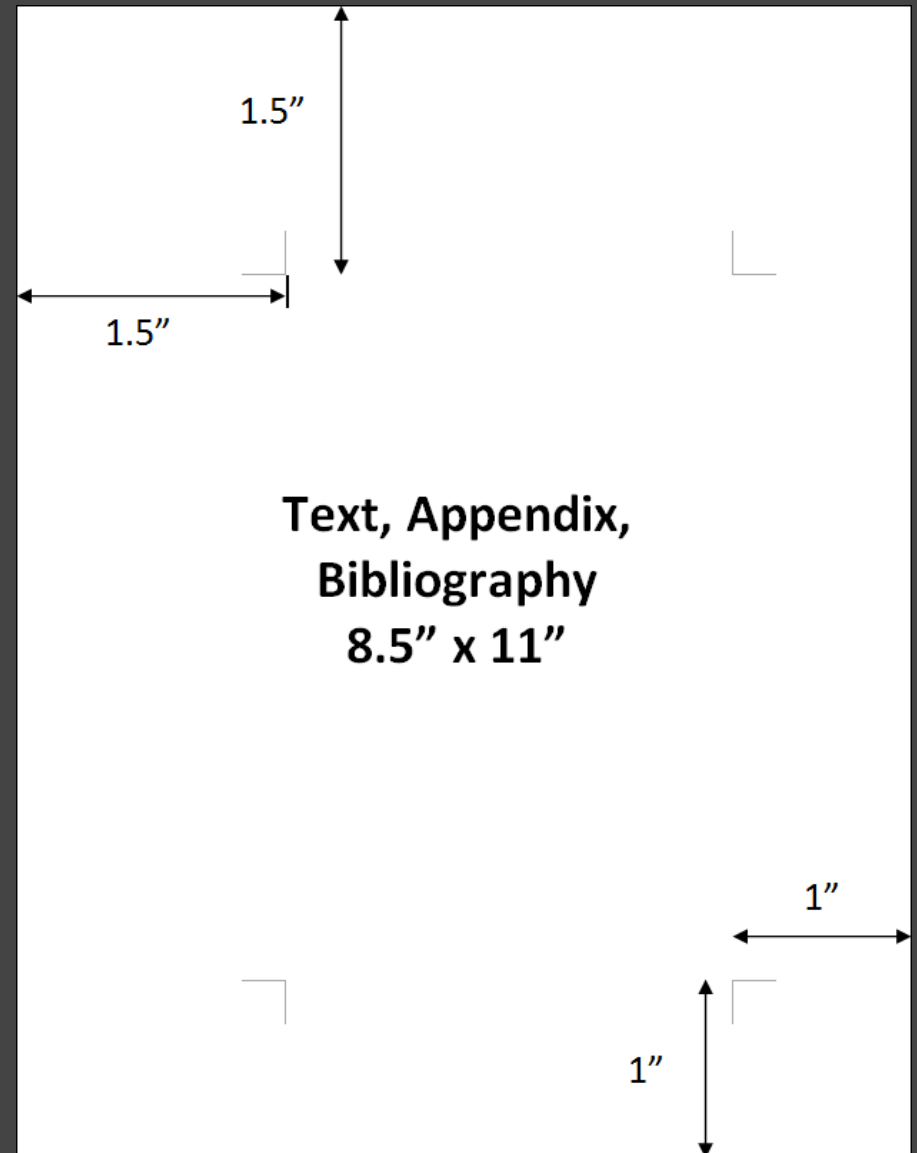
**Someone should be able to
replicate your study by following
your method chapter**

Style Guideline

- UNT Thesis & Dissertation Manual
<http://tinyurl.com/268xkun>
- Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition
- University style guideline **ALWAYS** takes precedence

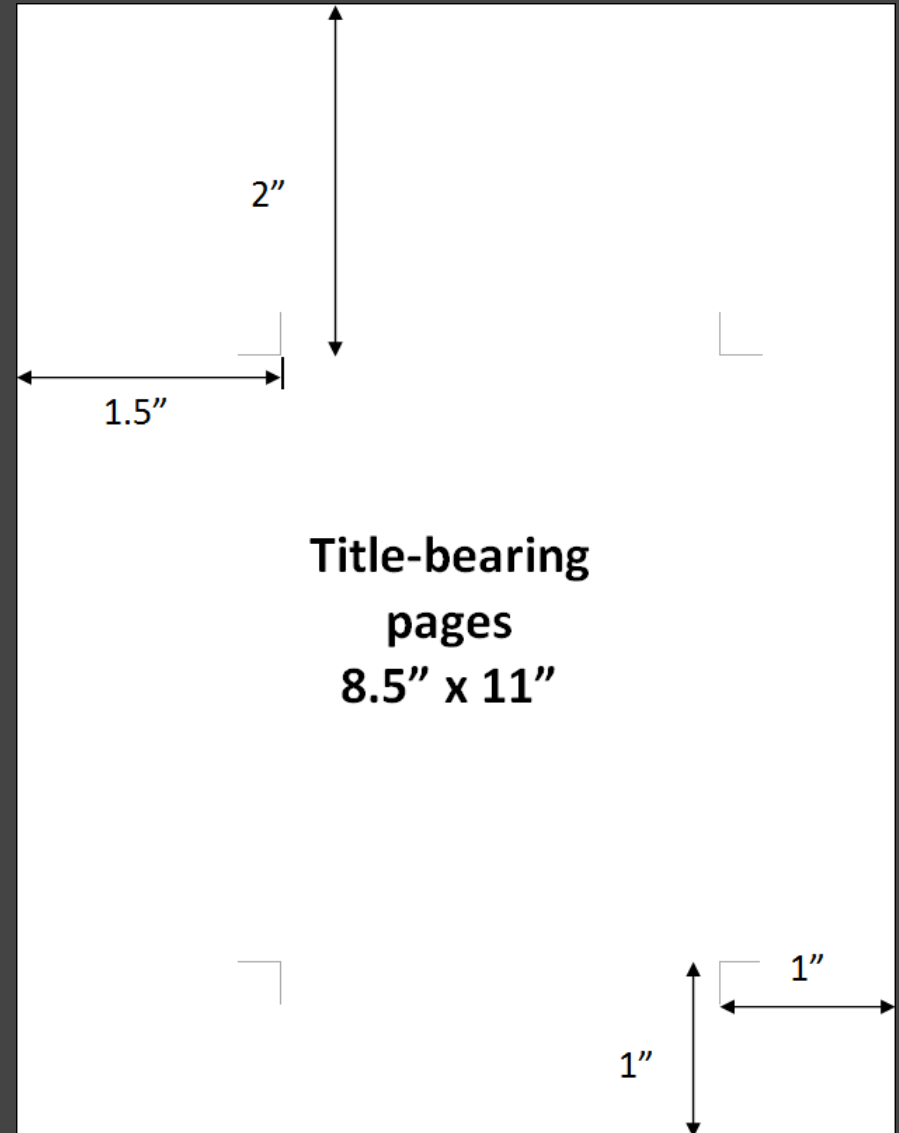
Highlights of UNT Style Guide

- Margins
 - Standard page (text, appendix, bibliography)
 - Top & Left – 1.5"
 - Right & Bottom – 1"



Highlights of UNT Style Guide

- Margins
 - Title-bearing pages (tables of contents, lists of tables, head pages of chapters...etc.)
 - Top – 2"
 - Left – 1.5"
 - Right & Bottom – 1"



Highlights of UNT Style Guide

- Page numbers
 - Center, 0.5” from the bottom
 - Front matter – small Roman numerals
 - Title page (page i, do not bear a number)
 - Other pages – Arabic numerals
- Spacing
 - Double spaced
 - No extra space between paragraphs
 - Indent the first line of each paragraph

Highlights of UNT Style Guide

- Spacing
 - Use widow/orphan control (In Microsoft Word, go to Paragraph → Line and Page Breaks, check “Widow/Orphan control”)
 - **NO** running head
 - Use **ONE** space after all punctuation, including periods

Order of Arrangement

- Title Page
- Copyright Notice
- Acknowledgments (no more than 1 page)*
- Table of Contents
- List of Tables*
- List of Illustrations*
- Body of Thesis
- Appendix*
- Bibliography or Reference List

Abstract

- Not considered part of the dissertation
- No page number
- Using UNT Abstract Template at:
<http://tinyurl.com/23vzbdb>

Title Page

All capitals and
double-spaced in
inverted pyramid
form

Italicized published
source

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SCHOLARSHIP: A SOCIOLOGY OF

THE REVIEW OF HIGHER EDUCATION

CONTRIBUTORS, 1977-2002

Ron W. Moss, B.S., M.Ed.

Dissertation Prepared for the Degree of

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

August 2005

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Abstract

- Heading – Name (Last, First), thesis title, degree, major, graduation data, number of pages, tables, illustrations, etc., number of titles in references)
- Double spaced
- No more than 350 words

Chippis, Kenneth M. For-profit higher education programs in the United States.

Doctor of Philosophy (Higher Education), May 2007, 102 pp., 32 tables, references, 89 titles.

This study examined the extent of research and teaching on higher education programs in the United States that focuses on for-profit higher education.

This descriptive study used a 30-item questionnaire to gather the information reported here. This survey instrument was sent to the entire population of interest. This population was made up of all of the programs in higher education that are listed in the ASHE Higher Education Program Directory, which is produced by the Association for the Study of Higher Education.

The results of this research show that little research and teaching is being done that has a primary focus on for-profit higher education. Recommendations on how to address this are provided.

Table of Content

- List all major components of your dissertation
- List all major and sub-headings
- No more than 5 levels of heading
- List of tables, figures, or illustrations should follow the table of contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS		Page
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS		iii
LIST OF TABLES		vii
Chapter		
1. INTRODUCTION		1
Statement of the Problem		7
Purposes of the Study.....		7
Research Questions.....		7
Significance of the Study.....		8
Definition of Terms.....		9
Limitations		10
Delimitations.....		10
2. REVIEW OF LITERATURE		12
Introduction.....		12
The 1960s - Research on Vocational Education.....		12
The 1970s - The Continuation of Research on Vocational Education		14
The 1980s - The Emergence of Degree-Granting For-Profit Higher Education		18
The 1990s to Date - For-Profit Colleges and Universities in the Mainstream		20
Vocational Education.....		21
Characteristics of Students.....		22
Lack of Data on the Sector.....		26
Students Interest in Education for Employment		28
Adult Students.....		30

Chapter Heading

- Every major division should begin on a new page
- Chapter heading must begin with word CHAPTER and the number in capitals without end punctuation
- No underline, no boldface

Headings and Subtitles

- Only chapter numbers and headings in all capitals
- Follow APA Manual 6th edition for other headings and subtitles
- Follow your departmental style guide if not APA

Reference Lists and Bibliography

- Only list works that you have cited
- Follow APA Manual 6th edition for citation rules and reference list rules
- Follow your departmental style guide if not APA

Proposed Changes

- Margins – 1” all the way around for all pages
- Font style
 - Sans serif font, e.g. Arial, strongly encouraged
 - Serif font, e.g. Times Roman, permitted
 - Monospaced, e.g. Courier, strongly **DIS**couraged
 - Consistency is a must (no matter which font you choose to use)

Proposed Changes (continue)

- Font size – 12 points – for everything including page numbers and headers
- Get permission for copyrighted materials
- Table and figures – incorporated in the text
- Don't follow the style of old dissertations

Guide for Good Writing

- *The Elements of Style* by Strunk and White
- *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*
- **NO** personal title (Mr., Mrs., Ms., Dr., Professor...etc.) in text
- Avoid gender references when referring to people in general
 - Use plural number
 - Use “he or she” when necessary, but don’t overuse

A Few More Reminders

- In dissertation, use *I* instead of *we* to refer to the researcher
- Quantitative theses – be objective
- Qualitative these – be authentic
- Literature review – past tense
- Proposal (methods) – future tense
- Dissertation – past tense

More on First- and Third-person Expression

- Use first-person to avoid ambiguity
- Example:
 1. “The researcher created a survey to measure student success.”
 2. “I created a survey to measure student success.”

Anthropomorphism

- Don't attribute human characteristics to animals or to inanimate sources
- Example
 1. The first-year experience program (FYE) attempts to demonstrate its effectiveness.
 2. The FYE staff attempts to demonstrate the effectiveness of the program.

Academic Integrity

- Cite and quote everything that is not of origin from you
- Don't use or included copyrighted material in your dissertation without permission
- Don't include copyrighted material in the appendix
- Do not modify a copyrighted material (survey or test) without permission

Tips for Drafting your Proposal

No thinking - that comes later. You must write your first draft with your heart. You rewrite with your head. The first key to writing is... to write, not to think!

From the movie, *Finding Forrester* (2000)

Judging Style

The continuous stripping of rain forests in the service of short-term economic interests could result in damage to the entire biosphere.

If rain forests are continuously stripped to serve short-term economic interests, the entire biosphere may be damaged.

The continuous stripping of rain
forests in the service of short-
term economic interests could
result in damage to the entire
biosphere.

Tips for Drafting your Proposal

- Make your subjects short, specific, and concrete
- Better:
 - If rain forests are continuously stripped to serve short-term economic interests, the entire biosphere may be damaged.

Our development and standardization of an index for the measurement of thought disorders has made possible quantification of response as a function of treatment differences.

Now that we have developed and standardized an index to measure thought disorders, we can quantify how patients respond to different treatments.

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Do NOT Nominalize Verbs

- Better:
 - Now that we have developed and standardized an index to measure thought disorders, we can quantify how patients respond to different treatments.

Calcium blockers can control muscle spasms. Sarcomeres are the small units of fibers in which these drugs work. Two filaments, one thick and one thin, are in each sarcomere. The proteins actin and myosin are contained in the thin filament. When actin and myosin interact, your muscle contracts.

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The Sequence of Information

- Old and familiar information first
- New and complex information last
- Muscle spasms can be controlled with drugs known as calcium blockers. Calcium blockers work in small units of muscle fibers called sarcomeres. Each sarcomere has two filaments, one thick and one thin. The thin filament contains two proteins, actin and myosin. When actin and myosin interact, your muscle contracts.

Tips for Writing Chapter 4 & 5

- Communicating evidence visually
 - Tables
 - Figures
 - Charts

Table 8

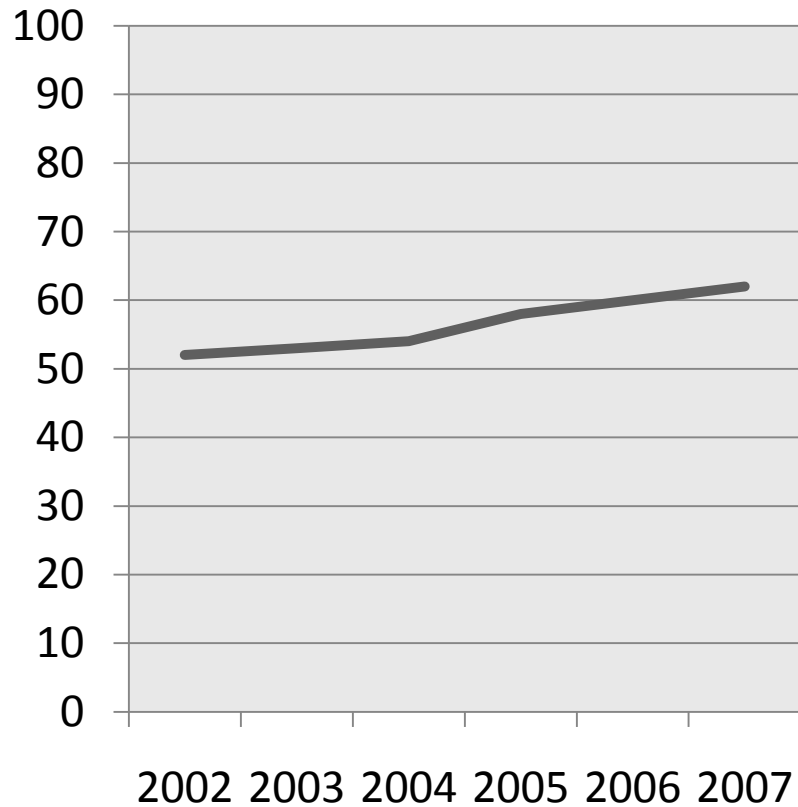
Demographic Characteristics of FG Participants (N=2,062)

Demographic Characteristic	N	%
Education Level of Mother		
Grammar or less	154	7.5
Some High School	194	9.4
High School Graduate	1443	70.0
Some Postsecondary	271	13.1
Education Level of Father		
Grammar or less	161	7.8
Some High School	266	12.9
High School Graduate	1380	66.9
Some Postsecondary	255	12.4
Racial Characteristics*		
White	1569	76.1
African American	154	7.5
American Indian	20	1.0
Asian American	124	6.0
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	15	.7
Mexican American	105	5.1
Puerto Rican	38	1.8
Other Latino	70	3.4
Other	73	3.5
Gender		
Male	706	34.4
Female	1349	65.6
Financial Need		
None	357	20.7
Financial Need	1364	79.3
English Speaking Ability		
English is Native Language	1811	88.5
English is not Native Language	236	11.5

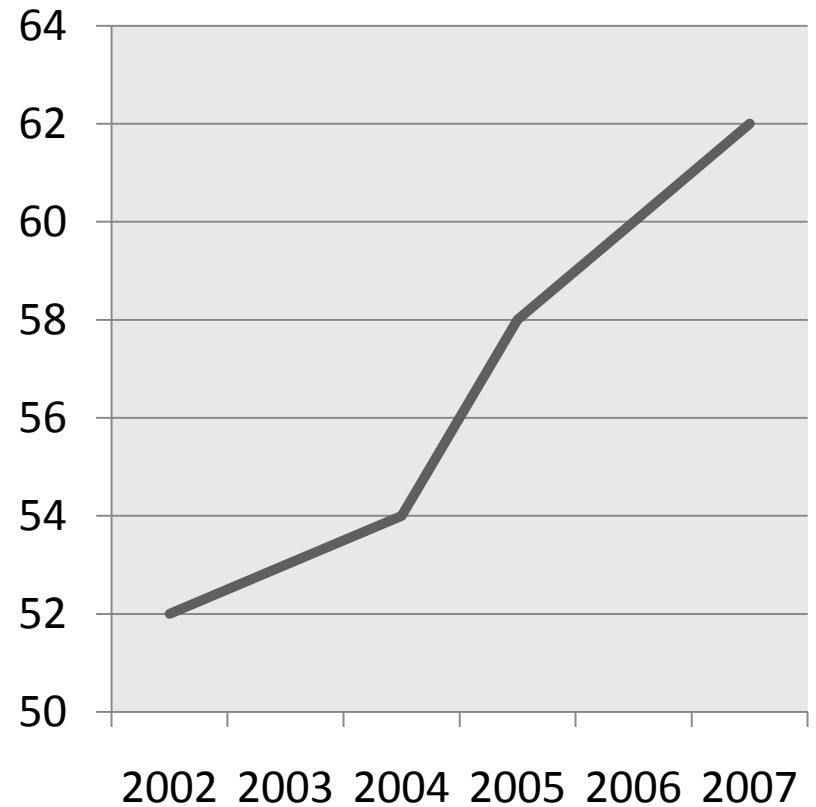
*Percentage for racial characteristics equals more than 100% due to participants who classified themselves in more than one racial category

Visual Communication & Ethics

Level of Academic Challenge



Level of Academic Challenge



Conclusions

- Restate the purpose of your study
- Summarize your findings and discuss the scholarly or practical implications of each finding
- Relating your findings to literature and previous studies
- Add a new significance
- Add a call for more research

Final Assignment

- Follow UNT Dissertation Style Guide and APA Publication Manual 6th ed.
- No abstract or table of content
- Less than 25 pages (not including reference list)
- At least 10 peer-reviewed articles in your references
- Focus on chapter 1 & 2