ASIA INSTITUTE

Updated February 2024

**Guidelines for the submission of an honours, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Diploma (Advanced) or Master by Coursework thesis**

The information below applies to students enrolled in a thesis as part of honours, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Diploma (Advanced) or Masters by Coursework course at the Asia Institute.

# Submission Dates

Semester One – the Monday in the final week of semester.

Semester Two – the Monday in the final week of semester.

# Thesis Submission

Your thesis must be submitted through Turnitin.

**Extensions**

Circumstances beyond your control may sometimes make it impossible to submit work on time. As soon as this is realised, you should contact the thesis subject coordinator for an extension. Your request for an extension should be supported by your supervisor. Please complete a [thesis extension application](https://arts.unimelb.edu.au/asia-institute/current-students/honours-graduate-diploma-advanced/?a=1874635) form. Forms must be completed by the student, accompanied by supporting documentation (eg medical certificate), and signed/approved by the thesis subject coordinator before the submission deadline.

Extensions may be granted for up to 10 days. Extensions beyond 10 days require a [Special Consideration](https://students.unimelb.edu.au/your-course/manage-your-course/exams-assessments-and-results/special-consideration) application to be lodged with Stop 1.

**Please note:** Students seeking extensions should also note that late submission of the thesis may mean that results are not submitted in time for consideration for federal and university graduate scholarships in November, or graduation in December.

# Thesis Format

The following format is required by the Asia Institute:

1. A thesis must be preceded by a title page listing:

* The title of the thesis
* The full name of the student
* The degree for which the thesis is submitted
* The month and year of submission
* The name of the Department, Faculty and University in which the research is submitted
* A statement on the thesis submitted for the degree as follows:

*“Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements of the degree of (name of course)”*

1. The title page must be followed by an abstract of 300-500 words in English
2. The abstract must be followed by a declaration, signed by the student, as follows:

*“*The thesis is (word count) words in length. This word length includes all quotations and epigraphs included in the body of the text; it excludes supplementary text (footnotes or endnotes, bibliography, abstract (synopsis), title page, acknowledgements, or appendices)*.”*

1. The remainder of the thesis should be formatted in the order that follows:
   * Acknowledgements
   * Table of Contents
   * List of tables, figures and illustrations (not necessary if less than ten list items)
   * Transliteration
   * Main text
   * Appendices
   * Bibliography
2. The word length is 15,000 words for Honours, Graduate Diploma, Graduate Diploma (Advanced) and 12,000 words for a 37.5 point Master by coursework minor thesis. There is a 10% leeway on the word limit requirement, where a dissertation exceeds that 10% margin either going above or below the word limit then examiners will mark down a thesis. As per #3 above, footnotes, endnotes, bibliography/reference list, abstract, title page, acknowledgments, and appendices are excluded from the word count.
3. Referencing should be comprehensive and should follow the reference style of your discipline or the reference style agreed with your supervisor. Full details of the publication of articles, books, chapters in collected works, government documents, and any other material, should be given in the list of references. Your bibliography should only list works actually cited in the dissertation.
4. Pages should be numbered consecutively and clearly
5. Folding diagrams or charts should be arranged so as to open out to the top and right
6. The thesis must be typed in double or 1.5 line spacing and presented in a clear and legible font (eg 12 point Arial, Times New Roman or Courier New).
7. Appropriate acknowledgment of all sources of information consulted in the thesis must be cited in accordance with a consistent academic referencing style. If citing from foreign language sources, the accepted convention for citing authors’ names should be used
8. Before submitting your thesis for submission, students should ensure that all the spelling, grammar, punctuation and choice of language are of a doctoral standard and the bibliography is complete and exact. It is recommended that you have your supervisor review the final draft before submission.

Please contact your supervisor if you have additional questions regarding the format of your thesis.