



Different Subjects & Structures

(for so many different, intelligent, creative people)


Types of Honors Theses/Senior Projects

1. Scholarly
2. Scientific
3. Pedagogical
4. Creative
5. Service Learning
6. Experiential Learning
7. Action Research
8. Leadership Portfolio
9. Wellness Project

Scientific Theses

- I. Introduction
- II. Literature Review
 - I. Previous Studies
 - II. Successes & Gaps
- III. Aims & Methods
- IV. Results
- V. Discussion
- VI. Conclusions
 - I. Applications?
 - II. Further Research
- VII. Appendixes
 - I. Data, Surveys, etc.

Scholarly Theses

- I. Introduction
- II. Background/History
- III. Theoretical Frameworks
- IV. Literature Review
 - I. Previous Analyses
 - II. Successes & Gaps
 - III. Sometimes Blended with
- V. Discussion/Argument 
 - I. Original Approach
 - II. Benefits over Prior Work
 - III. Refutation of Counterarguments
- VI. Summary & Conclusion

Pedagogical Theses

- I. Introduction
- II. Background/History
- III. Literature Review
 - I. Previous Studies
 - II. Successes & Gaps
- IV. Aims & Methods
 - I. Rationale(s) for Lesson Plans
 - II. Pre- and Post-testing
- V. Results
- VI. Discussion
- VII. Summary & Conclusions
 - I. Improvement over Prior Work
 - II. Need for Further Research
- VIII. Appendixes
 - I. Lesson Plans (usually)

Creative Theses

- I. Introduction
- II. Original Work
- III. Contextualization
 - Description & Rationale
 - Aims & Methods
 - Artistic Influences/Traditions
- IV. Summary & Conclusion
- V. Appendixes
 - Planning/Scheduling documents
 - Collaborative Materials
 - Pictures, Videos, Art, etc.

Fiction/Drama

- I. Introduction
- II. Contextualization
 - Aka. Expository Section / Artist's Statement
 - Description & Rationale
 - Artistic Influences/Traditions
- III. Original Work
- IV. Summary & Conclusion
 - Retrospection/Reflection
 - Achievements & Challenges
- V. Appendixes

Experiential Learning

(similar to service learning, next)

- I. Introduction
- II. Project Description
 - I. Initiating Motivation?
 - II. Background, history, scope
 - III. Description & Rationale
- III. Action Plan
 - I. Aims & Methods
 - II. Objective/Goals
- IV. Results
- V. Discussion }
} (bracketed together with IV)
- VI. Summary & Conclusion
- VII. Appendixes
 - I. Planning/Scheduling documents
 - II. Collaborative Materials
 - III. Pictures, Videos, Art, etc.

Service Learning

(Volunteerism)

- I. Introduction
- II. Overview of Problem
 - I. Background, History, and Scope of Problem (incl. previous attempts to fix)
- III. Action Plan
 - I. Actions taken by Charity
 - II. Actions taken by Individual (you)
 - III. Quantify Volunteerism (min. 30 hrs.)
- IV. Summary & Conclusion
 - I. Retrospection/Reflection
 - II. Achievements & Challenges
 - III. Personal Impact
- V. Appendixes
 - I. Planning/Scheduling documents
 - II. Collaborative Materials
 - III. Pictures, Videos, Art, etc.

Action Research

- I. Introduction
- II. Identification of Problem
 - I. Background, History, and Scope
 - II. Prob. can be personal or professional
- III. Lit Review/Review of Scholarship
- IV. Action Plan (for process or Intervention you designed)
 - I. Aims & Methods
 - II. Objectives / Goals
- V. Results
- VI. Discussion
- VII. Summary & Conclusion
 - I. Retrospection/Reflection
 - II. Achievements & Challenges
 - III. Personal Impact
- VIII. Extrapolation/Connection to Field

Leadership Portfolio

- I. Introduction
- II. Lit Review / Review of Literature
 - I. 5-7 Key Sources (ie. Larger Context)
 - II. Rationale for Choosing Them
 - III. Leadership Lessons they Provide
 - IV. Comparison/Contrast
- III. Application Section
 - I. How Lessons from Sources Relate to YOUR Leadership @ WOU?
 - II. Where Did You Succeed (by that criteria)?
 - III. Where Did You Come up Short?
- IV. Reflection Section
 - I. Future-oriented
 - II. How Might this Project Help You in the Next Stage of Your Life or Career?
- V. Summary & Conclusion

Wellness Project

- I. Introduction
- II. Lit Review / Review of Literature
 - I. 5-7 Key Sources (ie. Larger Context)
 - II. Rationale for Choosing Them
 - III. Identification of Best Practices
- III. Action Plan
 - I. Documentation/data recording
 - II. Interval Checkpoints
 - III. Collaboration?
- IV. Results
- V. Discussion
 - I. Where Did You Succeed?
 - II. Where Did You Come up Short?
- VI. Extrapolation & Conclusion
 - I. Lessons Learned
 - II. Benefits/Drawbacks

Other Required Elements

1. Title Page
2. Acknowledgements
3. Table of Contents
4. Abstract
5. Appendices (maybe)
 1. List of Illustrations, Figures, Tables, Etc.
 2. Character List
 3. Whatever (Photos)
6. Bibliography