

CONTENT OF THESIS

A typical thesis has a title page, an abstract, a table of contents; a body, comprising the various chapters (introduction, literature review, research methodology, findings, conclusions, recommendations and a references section). Theses may vary in their structure in line with the many different areas of study notably; arts, humanities, social sciences, technology, sciences, medicine, etc. Whatever the discipline, however, the structure of the thesis explains the purpose, the methods used and the findings of the thesis by including a series of chapters (or sections within fewer chapters) namely:

a) Preliminaries

- Title page
 - Statement – A thesis submitted in fulfillment or partial fulfillment for the degree of (name of degree) in the department of ____ in the University of Nairobi.
 - Date – Date of submission of thesis to appear at the bottom center page (the cover page is not numbered)
- Declaration
 - To appear on the second page and reads: “This thesis is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other University”, followed by signature, date, name of candidate and registration number.
 - Supervisor’s approval – Comes after declaration and reads: “This thesis has been submitted for examination with my/our approval/knowledge as university supervisor(s)”, followed by signature, date and name of supervisors.
- Dedication
- Acknowledgements
- Table of contents
 - List of Tables
 - List of Figures
 - List of Appendices
 - List of Abbreviations
 - Definitions
 - References
- Abstract

NB: The preliminary pages will be numbered in roman numerals.

b) Abstract

A short and concise description of the study of not more than 1,000 words (up to two pages). What is the issue or problem, why is it important or interesting, and what are the findings

c) Thesis text

i. Introduction

- Background information
- What is the issue or problem
- What are the objectives of the study

- What is the significance/justification of the study
- How do you plan to deal with the problem
- What is your expected solution/suggestion/intervention
- ii. Literature review**
 - What is the current thinking, findings, and approaches on the problem/issue
 - How does the literature motivate your research issues
 - What is the way forward
- iii. Research Methodology/Materials and Methods**
 - What procedures were used in collection of information or data on the topic of research
 - What special steps did the researcher take to select or utilize the data
 - Ethical considerations and confidentiality
 - What is the researcher's impression of the utility, relevance, or quality of the data collected
 - How is the analysis planned using relevant tools
- iv. Results/Findings**
 - What are the research findings
 - Are there problems with the findings in terms of answering the questions posed in the introduction
- v. Discussion/Evaluation/Analysis**
 - Summarize the most important findings.
 - What do your findings mean/imply
 - What conclusions can you draw
 - How do your results fit into a broader context of the subject and how do they compare with previous findings
- vi. Conclusion and Recommendations**
 - Indicate the conclusions on the basis of analysis conducted.
 - What are the implications of the findings
 - What are the recommendations/solutions/way forward
 - Mention the areas of further study.
- vii. References**
- viii. Appendices**