UCSB
Guide to Formatting and Filing Theses and Dissertations

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A Graduate Division Publication
University of California, Santa Barbara
Dear Graduate Student,

A doctoral dissertation or master's thesis represents the culmination of a UCSB degree program and documents a graduate student's contribution to academic research in a specific discipline. Key to this contribution is the presentation of research results that reflect the highest degree of scholarship and adherence to the disciplinary norms for presentation within your discipline.

The Guide to Formatting and Filing Theses and Dissertations outlines requirements for the submission and dissemination of your doctoral dissertation or master's thesis at UCSB. These have been written to ensure consistency and accuracy in the formatting and completion of your thesis or dissertation. Following these guidelines from an early point in the production of your work saves time reformatting later and helps instill in you the practice of professional academic writing.

We wish you all the best in this important final stage of completing your degree. Please feel free to contact the Graduate Division staff if you have questions about this process.

Sincerely,

Carol Genetti
Dean
UC Santa Barbara Graduate Division
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Chapter I. Academic Senate Policy and Student Responsibility for Dissertations and Theses

Doctoral dissertations and master’s theses submitted to UCSB must meet the requirements set by Graduate Council for the degree candidate to be eligible for a graduate degree.¹ A doctoral dissertation must be the result of original research conducted in the candidate’s specialization and must be approved in its entirety by the student’s doctoral committee. A master’s thesis must be a significant research work and must be approved in its entirety by the master’s committee.

Students and their committee members are responsible for everything contained in the manuscript. The complete master’s thesis or doctoral dissertation must be submitted to the members of the student’s supervising committee for their review and final approval. This includes all preliminary pages or front matter (e.g., dedication, acknowledgements, abstract), the main body of text (including any charts or other inserted matter), and the back matter (e.g., the notes and bibliography, any appendices). It is the responsibility of all committee members to read the entire content of the manuscript before approving. Nothing can be added once the committee has given final approval as indicated by their signatures on the signature page.

Students should electronically file the thesis or dissertation only when it is completed and approved in its entirety by all their committee members. This means making the revisions requested by supervising faculty members prior to obtaining final signatures and electronically filing the document.

Once Graduate Division has accepted the electronically filed document, it is final and cannot be changed. Students and committee members are responsible for ensuring that all standards of publication (including fair use,² copyrighting, patents, and publication rights) and all standards of research are met, including, where appropriate, approval of the Human Subjects Committee (contact the Office of Research at 893-3807) or approval of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee [IACUC] (contact IACUC@lifesci.ucsb.edu).

¹ These include UCSB Academic Senate Regulations 350, 355, and 360 (Amended 7 Nov 96) covering the doctorate, and A.S. Regulations 300 and 350 A-B (Amended 7 Nov 96) covering the master’s degree.

² For an overview of copyright law and fair use as it applies to master’s theses and doctoral dissertations, see the manual Copyright Law & Graduate Research: New Media, New Rights, and Your Dissertation by Kenneth D. Crews. The manual is available from ProQuest at http://www.proquest.com/en-US/products/dissertations/copyright/or by calling (800) 521-0600, ext. 7020. Crews cites four factors to evaluate and balance in determining whether there is fair use: (1) the purpose of the use, including a non-profit educational purpose; (2) the nature of the copyrighted work; (3) the amount of the copying; and (4) the effect of the copying on the potential for, or value of, the original work. Crews’ manual also includes a sample permission letter.
Per Graduate Council policy, master’s theses and doctoral dissertations must be published through ProQuest Information and Learning using microfilm and electronic means. As such, students grant ProQuest the non-exclusive right to reproduce and distribute their theses or dissertations in and from microfilm and in and from an electronic format. Students also grant ProQuest the non-exclusive right to reproduce and distribute their abstracts in any format in whole or in part. Students may grant other publication rights as they wish in other forms – hard or soft cover, posters, screenplay, etc.

ProQuest keeps a master microfilm of each thesis and dissertation deposited with them, offers copies of the documents for sale, and publishes an abstract of the document in Masters Abstracts International or Dissertation Abstracts International (available on the Internet). ProQuest pays a royalty on sales of copies of the thesis or dissertation. ProQuest may use third party agencies to collect orders for theses and dissertations, but ProQuest fills the orders. During the e-filing process, students choose whether or not to allow third party sales of their document. Authors retain all rights to their dissertations, and sales are tracked for royalty payments.

It is the policy of UC Santa Barbara to deposit all electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) at the UC Santa Barbara Library. The ETDs will be archived in the Library’s institutional repository (IR), Alexandria Digital Research Library (ADRL), and will be accessible to patrons visiting the Library. The Library Publishing Agreement can be read here: http://www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/docs/default-source/academic-services-documents/2014-documents/publishing-agreement-3-19-14.pdf?sfvrsn=2

Students who have questions concerning any of the above should contact Academic Services in the Graduate Division at 893-2277 or consult the ProQuest Authors website at: http://www.proquest.com/en-US/products/dissertations/authors.shtml

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3 Further details on the benefits of UMI publishing can be found on their website: http://www.proquest.com/products-services/dissertations/authors.html
Chapter II. Specifications of the Document

The specifications in the following pages were adopted in consultation with UCSB Davidson Library and based on the publication standards of ProQuest. These standards assure uniformity in the degree candidates’ manuscripts to be archived electronically in the Davidson Library, as well as to ensure the widest possible dissemination of student-authored knowledge. A sample thesis and dissertation, including preliminary pages, body text with figures, references and appendix, is available on-line in downloadable PDF or MS Word format at http://www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/academic/preparing-filing

English Required in Text

The manuscript must be written in English, unless the student is a degree candidate in a foreign language department that encourages or requires theses/dissertations in the language of study. Even if the text is in another language, all information in the preliminary pages, except the title, Acknowledgements, and Table of Contents, must be in English.

Font and Font Sizes

The font used must be clear, legible, and large enough to be easily readable on microfilm. A font size of at least 12 must be used for the text. Standard fonts such as Arial, Century, Helvetica, or Times New Roman are recommended. A font size of at least 10 must be used for footnotes and captions.

Italics may be used for quotations, headings, labels, book titles, foreign words, scientific names or for occasional emphasis. Fonts and font sizes used for appendices, charts, drawings, graphs, maps and tables may differ from that used for the text. Script, calligraphy, italics, and specialized art fonts are not acceptable for the main body of the text. The print should be letter quality with dark black characters that are clear and dense.

Minimum Margins

Large margins are necessary because of the binding process (some students may choose to purchase bound copies). The student may set larger margins but must be sure that the final text lies well within these guidelines.

TOP LINE OF TYPE = 1” from top of page
BOTTOM LINE OF TYPE = 1” from bottom of page
LEFT = 1.25” (this margin is wide for binding requirements and microfilming)
RIGHT = 1”
PAGE NUMBER = .75” from bottom of page

Except for page numbers, nothing must intrude into the margins. These minimum specifications also apply to all figures, charts, graphs, illustrations and appendices.

4 For the complete list of recommended fonts, please see here: http://www.etdadmin.com/UMI_PreparingYourManuscriptGuide.pdf
Page Numbers and Pagination

Page numbers should be centered on the page .75 inches from the bottom edge of the portrait page. Placement of page numbers must be consistent throughout the manuscript. Students should be careful to provide space between the text and the page numbers. Some word processing programs have a page numbering default that sets the number too close to the last line of type to meet the UCSB requirements. If this is the case, the student must properly set the Footer margin of the document; the manual for the word processing program contains instructions for this and other formatting procedures.

Except where noted below, each page of the entire manuscript must be numbered consecutively; pages should be counted or numbered in accord with the following standards:

1. Neither the title page nor signature page should have visible page numbers, although these pages are counted when numbering the following preliminary pages.

2. All preliminary pages following the title and signature pages must be numbered consecutively beginning with lower case Roman numeral “iii” and continue with iv, v, vi, etc.). This includes the copyright page, dedication, acknowledgements, abstract, vita (required for dissertations only), table of contents, list of figures/ tables/ symbols/ illustrations, and introduction.

3. The main body of the text and any back matter must be numbered consecutively at the bottom of the portrait page with Arabic numerals beginning with “1” (1, 2, 3, etc.), including text, illustrative materials, bibliography, notes, and appendices.

Correct pagination is required for the manuscript to be acceptable. The document must be free of missing pages, blank pages, or duplicate numbers or pages.

Double Spacing of Text Required

The abstract and all textual materials in the main body of the document should be double-spaced. Single spacing is acceptable for: vita, dedication/acknowledgements, Table of Contents, long quotations, footnotes, text that appears within figures or tables or maps, bibliographies, and captions. Survey instruments and other materials used by the student to conduct research that are reproduced in an appendix may be single-spaced.

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5 Students may elect to have their introduction located at the beginning of their main body. In that case, it would start with the Arabic number “1.”
Chapter III. Fair Use, Permissions, Copyright, and Embargo/Delayed Release

Fair Use

Material included in a thesis or dissertation that exceeds fair use requires permission of the copyright owner. Although a thesis or dissertation is primarily nonprofit and educational in purpose and character, there is generally no fair use if an entire previously copyrighted work (published or unpublished) is reproduced. A statement from the copyright owner giving the student permission to use the material must be submitted with the thesis or dissertation. It is the student’s responsibility to secure all necessary permissions before electronically filing their thesis or dissertation.

Permission letters for theses and dissertations must state that the copyright owner is aware that the requested permission extends to any future revisions and editions of the dissertation, including non-exclusive world rights in all languages, and to the prospective publication of the dissertation by ProQuest.

Permission letters should be uploaded via ProQuest’s website at the same time you electronically file your thesis or dissertation. Once the document reaches the ProQuest/UMI offices, staff members prepare it for publication and identify substantial uses of copyrighted materials that may need permission. Students may contact ProQuest to inquire about any aspect of the review and the possible need for copyright permissions at (800) 521-0600, ext. 7020.

For more information and sample permission letters please read the manual “Copyright Law and Graduate Research,” which can be found on the ProQuest website at: http://www.proquest.com/assets/literature/services/copyright_dissthesis_ownership.pdf

Copyright

Copyright protection exists from the moment your manuscript is created. Placement of the copyright notice in the proper form and place on published copies of the manuscript is not required, but recommended as a means to protect the material. Whether or not a notice of copyright is affixed to the manuscript, students retain the right to publish all or any part of it by any means at any time. See sample thesis or dissertation for proper formatting of the copyright notice: http://www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/academic/preparing-filing

In order to enforce copyright (in case of infringement), a copyright must be registered with the United States Copyright Office. Copyright registration is a legal formality intended to make a public record of the basic facts of a particular copyright. Copyright registration helps protect against infringement of the author’s intellectual and property rights. Since decisions by others whether or not to copy a manuscript are often guided by the existence of a registered copyright, prudence dictates that students register the copyright soon after publication.
Students may have ProQuest register their copyright for a fee.⁶ Students can choose this option during the electronic filing process. Although ProQuest acts as a publisher, students are not assigning ProQuest the copyright; ProQuest holds no copyrights to the thesis or dissertation. The contract gives ProQuest reproduction, sales, and distribution rights, but authors retain control of the work’s intellectual content.

Students may register the copyright themselves directly through the U.S. Copyright Office. For instructions, fees, and other information, please see the Copyright Office website at:
http://www.copyright.gov/

⁶ For more information about this service from Proquest, see here:

Embargo/Delayed Release

Students may choose to delay the release (embargo) of their ETD due to a pending patent, publication, or other reason. An embargo of 6 months, 1 year, or 2 years may be requested directly via ProQuest at the time of electronic submission. UCSB requires students to obtain approval from their Committee Chair and the Graduate Division Dean when the request to embargo their ETD is for a period longer than 2 years.

The petition for a delayed release/embargo of longer than 2 years can be downloaded here:

ProQuest provides helpful embargo information at:
Chapter IV. Organization of the Document

Preliminary Pages

Except for the title page and signature page, all preliminary pages are numbered in sequence with lower case Roman numerals centered and placed .75 inches from the bottom of the portrait page. The page after the signature page begins with number “iii.” A sample thesis and dissertation, including preliminary pages, body text with figures, references and appendix, is available on-line in downloadable PDF or MS Word format at the following web address: http://www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/academic/preparing-filing

Title Page (Required)

- The name of the institution conferring the degree – University of California, Santa Barbara – should appear at the top of the title page (see sample title page).
- The title should be specific, unambiguous, and descriptive of the research, with easily identifiable key words that will ensure electronic retrieval. The title should not be overly lengthy, and generally speaking, should not contain more than 50 words.
- Scientific titles must use words, not symbols, formulas, superscripts or Greek letters in the title. Subscripts and/or superscripts may be used, but will not appear correctly on your UCSB Official Transcript (e.g. X^2 would appear as “X2”).
- The student must use a brief summary title when the manuscript is a compilation of two publishable papers that are referenced in the title.
- Master’s students should refer to their document as a thesis. Doctoral students should refer to their document as a dissertation. D.M.A. students in Music should refer to their document as a supporting document.
- The degree listed should be the degree that UCSB will actually confer (e.g., Chemistry, not Chemistry & Biochemistry); if unsure, contact the Graduate Division at 893-2277.
- Students should list their full legal name and follow this format throughout the manuscript.
- All committee members must be listed, chairperson first, using the generic title Professor.
  - For committee members that are affiliated with UCSB, but are not ladder faculty, list them as “Dr.” and include their affiliation. If they don’t have a doctorate, list their highest degree after their name:
    - Dr. Jane Doe, Lecturer/Adjunct Professor/Researcher
    - John Doe, M.S., Lecturer/Adjunct Professor/Researcher
  - For committee members who are professors at another UC or university, list them as “Professor” and include their institution after their name:
    - Professor Jane Doe, Stanford University
    - Professor John Doe, University of California Santa Cruz
  - For committee members outside of academia, list them with their highest degree. Their company may be included if appropriate:
    - Jane Doe, B.S., Microsoft
• John Doe, M.A.
• Degree date on title page must be last month and year of the quarter of degree conferral – December for a Fall degree, March for a Winter degree, June for a Spring degree, and September for a Summer degree.
• The title page is not numbered, although it is counted as page “i” in the sequential numbering of the preliminary pages. The title and signature pages are the only manuscript pages without page numbers.

Signature Page (Required)

Students must obtain, on at least one plain white 8.5 x 11 sheet of paper, original faculty signatures in permanent black or blue ink (this is required to complete the filing process). The signatures must correspond to the names of committee members listed on the title page, but the order is different. The committee chair is listed last and signs on the bottom line. The signature page must include the month and year that the committee signs, indicating their approval and acceptance of the entire document.

Along with the title page, the signature page is not numbered (although it is counted sequentially as page ii). Preliminary page numbering, following the signature page, will vary depending on which of the optional pages described below the student chooses to include. Page numbering must be consistent throughout the document.

Copyright Notice (Optional)

Students who are planning to register their copyright can include a separate page for the statement of copyright. The use of a copyright notice is no longer required under U.S. law, but is considered important and beneficial because it informs the public that the work is protected by copyright, identifies the copyright owner, and shows the year of first publication. Additional information on copyrighting appears in Chapter III. Students should use the same form of their name that appears on the title page. See the copyright notice example in the sample thesis and dissertation.

Dedication and/or Acknowledgements (Optional)

Students may use this section to dedicate their manuscript to someone or to acknowledge particular persons in their lives. Within the usual margin restrictions, any format is acceptable for these pages. The acknowledgements, along with any other preliminary sections or parts of the thesis or dissertation, must be reviewed and approved by the student’s committee.

Vita (Only required for doctoral students)

A biographical notice, or vita, is required only of doctoral candidates. It should contain the following information:

• Name
• Colleges attended and degrees earned.
• Professional appointments (may include military assignments).
• Publications (may include the title of an unpublished master’s thesis).
• Fields of study and names of faculty who supervised research. Group fields into related teaching or research headings where possible.

See sample dissertation for vita example.

Abstract (Required)

The abstract must be double-spaced, is required for both theses and dissertations, and must include the following:

• The title of the thesis or dissertation and the candidate’s name in full
• A brief statement of the problem
• A description of the methods and procedures used to gather data or study the problem
• A condensed summary of the findings

Table of Contents (Optional)

Very brief works need not have a table of contents, but most theses and all dissertations are easier to use with a table of contents. If images or illustrations such as maps, diagrams, charts, and photos are scattered throughout the document, make a separate “List of Figures” or “Table of Illustrations” to follow the table of contents. Include page numbers.

The Main Body of the Manuscript (Required)

Except where specified otherwise in these requirements, the organization, presentation, and documentation of the student’s thesis or dissertation should meet the standards for publishing journal articles or monographs in the field of inquiry. For general information, consult a standard style guide; The University of Chicago Manual of Style is an example of an authoritative source. Students who have discipline-specific questions should consult style sheets from journals in the field of inquiry, as well as their committee members. The first page of the main body of text must be numbered as an Arabic “1.”

Notes (Optional)

Footnotes, citations, and bibliographic references will vary by discipline. Footnotes may be embedded in the text, placed at the bottom of each page, or collected at the ends of chapters or at the end of the entire work, preceding the bibliography. Students should consult the committee for the format they (or the discipline) prefer(s) and use it consistently throughout the document.
Bibliography (Optional)

Some disciplines put bibliographic notes at the end of each chapter; others collect extensive bibliographies at the end of the work. Committee members and disciplinary formatting guidelines should be consulted regarding the form and organization to be used in presenting bibliographic material.

Appendices (Optional)

Appendices typically contain supporting material such as data sheets, questionnaire samples, illustrations, maps, charts, etc. Students may need to shrink some items to less than 100% in order to fit them within the margins. See Chapter IV, Special Handling for Oversize, Illustrative, and Special Materials for additional information.
Chapter IV. Special Handling for Oversize, Illustrative, and Special Materials

When considering the use of oversize, illustrative, and special materials, students should first seek guidance from their committee members or departments. Oversize, illustrative, and special materials described in the following paragraphs must meet UCSB margin requirements.

**Handling Oversize Materials**

An image that has been reduced to fit within required margins for an 8.5 x 11-inch page must be legible. Images, computer output, tables, or other illustrative materials with wide margins may be rotated to landscape on the page to fit within required margins, but the top of the material should run along the binding (or left) edge of the paper so as not to intrude into the required 1.25 inch margin. For instructions on how to format the page numbers correctly on a landscaped page, please consult the Proquest FAQ page at: [http://www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/main/faq?siteId=67#ts6](http://www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/main/faq?siteId=67#ts6)

**Color in Maps and Illustrations**

Both black-and-white and color illustrations are acceptable. PDF and print reproductions will include color material, microfilm reproductions will not. ProQuest recommends that color *not* be used as the key to a graph or map. Further, labels or symbols rather than colors should identify lines on a graph. Shaded areas – such as countries on a map – will have better contrast if cross-hatching is used instead of color.

**Submission of Supplementary Material**

Audio, video and other supplementary material can be submitted along with the PDF copy of your thesis or dissertation. For information on how to upload supplementary material, please see ProQuest’s FAQ page at: [http://www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/main/faq?siteId=67#ts7](http://www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/main/faq?siteId=67#ts7)

**Music Compositions**

Students preparing music compositions should seek guidance from their faculty when considering compositions utilizing oversize pages for the composition itself. A clear margin of 1.25 inches should be provided on the binding (left) margin of the composition; nothing should intrude in this space. The pages of the composition must be numbered, preferably in the bottom margin, centered in the middle of the page approximately .75 inches from the bottom edge of the page. The first page of the composition must be numbered as an Arabic “1.”

The preliminary pages – i.e., the title and signature, abstract, vita, acknowledgments – must meet Graduate Council requirements as to page numbering, margins, etc. outlined for all
other manuscripts in Chapters I and II of this guide. The composition and preliminary pages must be legible and free of smudges, streaks, or other extraneous marks; neither interlineations nor white-out are permitted. Hand-written compositions should utilize black ink and pay attention to clarity of music notation; the larger the better.

A pre-check of a draft of the composition and preliminary pages by Graduate Division staff can help prevent problems that would otherwise be encountered at the time of filing for the degree.
Chapter V. Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Filing

UCSB requires students to electronically file their thesis or dissertation (referred to in this document as “ETD”) with ProQuest. Filing a hardcopy of the thesis or dissertation is no longer required, and hardcopies will no longer be accepted.

Electronic Thesis and Dissertation Format

The electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) must be submitted as a single electronic Portable Document Format (PDF) file. If the original ETD is a MS Word or RTF file, it will be converted to PDF at the UCSB Dissertation/Thesis Submission Site. Certain types of fonts and graphics work better with PDF, and special attention should be paid to creating equations for PDF conversion. Issues related to PDF files are discussed in the PDF Help Center section of the submission website at: http://www.etdadmin.com/UMI_PreparingYourManuscriptGuide.pdf.

If the ETD is not in MS Word, RTF or PDF – e.g. LaTeX or WordPerfect – it must be converted to PDF by the student before the student uses the Submission Site. UCSB Instructional Computing (IC) makes Adobe Acrobat available at no charge to UCSB students at several IC computer labs. See http://www.collaborate.ucsb.edu/home for information about IC facilities and services.

How to Submit the Thesis or Dissertation Electronically

Start by creating an ETD account on the Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) website. Log on to your account to submit your manuscript and view/revise an existing submission.

Some basic steps to submission:

- The thesis/dissertation must follow all institutional formatting guidelines for submitting an electronic manuscript.
- Review all instructions on the ETD website prior to submitting your thesis/dissertation.

If you have questions or concerns, contact:
Technical questions, email ProQuest, ETD at: http://www.etdadmin.com/cgi-bin/main/support?siteId=67
Formatting and degree completion, email Graduate Division, Academic Services at: gradacademics@graddiv.ucsb.edu

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7 PDF is commonly used to distribute documents on-line because it allows readers on different platforms (e.g., Windows, Mac and UNIX) to view files as originally intended by the author.
Chapter VI. Assistance and Resources

Assistance with the manuscript-writing process is available from the following:

- CLAS (Campus Learning Assistance Services). Writing lab provides individual assistance with writing, with a limit of one hour/week. Building 477, ext. 3269.

- Statistical Consulting Lab. Assists with evaluation of statistics for research. Will not write programs for students, but will give advice on how to interpret statistical sets. South Hall 5516, - [www.pstat.ucsb.edu/statlab.htm](http://www.pstat.ucsb.edu/statlab.htm)


- Dissertation and Thesis Filing Workshops - [www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/](http://www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/)

- ASGS - Organization designed to assist graduate students working on theses and dissertations: Association for Support of Graduate Students – [www.asgs.org/](http://www.asgs.org/)

Questions regarding manuscript formatting, filing, degree completion, and/or degree verification letters:

Graduate Division Academic Services
Cheadle Hall 3117
Phone: 893-2398-2277
E-mail: gradacademics@graddiv.ucsb.edu
Web site: [http://www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/academic/](http://www.graddiv.ucsb.edu/academic/)
Office hours: 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon, 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., Monday-Friday, excluding holidays.

Questions regarding transcripts and diplomas:

Office of the Registrar

Questions regarding copyrighting, including application forms:

Copyright Office of the Library of Congress
Washington, D.C. 20559
Phone: (202) 707-3000; FAX: (202) 287-9100
For general information on copyrighting: www.copyright.gov/
To access frequently asked questions: www.copyright.gov/faq.html

Both sites provide information about the basics of copyrighting law and links to downloadable copyright registration forms, and seek to encourage discussion of real-world issues arising from the Internet, digital dissertations, entertainment world, and new media law.

Questions regarding use of previously published, copyrighted work:

ProQuest Information & Learning (ProQuest/UMI), Dissertation Publishing: Copyright Law & Graduate Research: New Media, New Rights, and Your Dissertation, by Kenneth D. Crew
(800) 521-0600, ext. 7020

Questions regarding publication and retrieval of theses and dissertations:

Contact Author Relations at disspub@proquest.com or 800.521.0600 ext. 77020

Access to other students’ theses and dissertations: wwwlib.umi.com/cr/ucsb/main/

The UCSB Library, in participation with the California Digital Library (CDL), offers access to Digital Theses and Dissertations, a service of ProQuest Information and Learning (formerly known as UMI). The database includes citations for materials ranging from the first U.S. dissertation to those accepted as recently as last semester; those published from 1980 forward also include abstracts. Approximately 1.5 million titles are listed, of which over a million are offered in full text.