

Thesis Guidelines for the Minor in Biomedical Research

DUPLICATE THESIS: If you are submitting a thesis for departmental honors based on research you also did for the Minor, you may submit the same thesis for the Minor as well. If not, then please use the following guidelines for your Minor thesis:

Your thesis should adequately describe the research carried out during your four quarters of 199/198. It should be written in the format of a primary research paper. The thesis should have the following sections:

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|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Title | 5. Results | 8. Future Experiments |
| 2. Abstract | 6. Discussion | 9. Acknowledgements |
| 3. Introduction | 7. Materials and Methods | 10. References |
| 4. Experimental Design | | |

PLEASE NOTE: It is not a requirement that experiments work or yield a publishable result. It is important, however, to analyze the experiments, and especially in the case where few results were obtained, to suggest future experiments that might shed light on the problem. The “Experimental Design” section and the “Future Experiments” section are important for demonstrating an understanding of the experimental system.

- The results in your paper should be from your own experiments. You may include experiments done in conjunction with others, as long as you did part of the experiment.
- Your thesis should be written completely by you. A copy of a multi-authored publication or paper submitted for publication cannot substitute for your Minor thesis.
- Your Results section should include figures and tables as appropriate to describe the data. Be sure to provide proper legends!
- The Introduction section should be a short but scholarly review of the field, and should be a minimum of 1500 words with at least fifteen (15) literature citations.
- The Discussion section and Future Experiments section should be a combined minimum of 1500 words.
- The Introduction and Discussion should show knowledge of the larger field, and represent a minireview of the topic of the paper.
- Use *Cell* format for your references. They should include the names of all authors, the year, full titles of the article, the journal, volume number and beginning and end pages.

Word Count. We have been flexible on word count as long as the section(s) provide a proper scholarly context for your work. An area sometimes missed is not utilizing at least 15 separate references or citations.

Your thesis is due 5pm, Friday of Week 10. The paper must be read, approved and signed by your research sponsor (your P.I.). Be sure to give your P.I. at least 2 weeks to read and comment on your thesis in advance of the deadline. **We strongly advise you to discuss this ahead of time with him or her to allow proper planning.**

LATE THESIS SUBMISSION. After the deadline date, the department begins working with the Registrar to confirm your graduation. Any delay in submission of your thesis could delay confirmation of your graduation. Keep this in mind – if you intend to apply for advanced degree programs or professional schools and want the Minor and Degree Completion to reflect on your transcripts.

- **SUBMISSION OPTIONS:** 1) In person to Dr. Clark in 220A Hershey Hall or Enika Tumanov in 220B Hershey Hall 2) **as needed**, if faculty PI is away, electronic submission with email approval of thesis by PI to Dr. Clark.
- **Special Circumstances:** If necessary, please contact Dr. Ira Clark (iclark@ucla.edu, 220A Hershey Hall, 310-267-5679) or Enika Tumanov (etumanov@lifesci.ucla.edu, 310-825-0237) to arrange alternative submission of your thesis.