

Resources for thesis & dissertation writers



There is no single publication that provides a comprehensive guide for thesis and dissertation writers, but there are many resources that provide excellent advice on at least one aspect of the research and writing process. This list of print and online resources in the Lincoln University collection provides you with a 'starting point'.

Each of these resources is written for a specific audience – for instance, students enrolled in specific type of degree, or researching in a particular discipline. If you are uncertain about whether the advice is applicable to your research project, check with your supervisor.

Introduction to research degrees

- the nature of research degrees
- managing projects
- research principles

- Boyle, J., & Ramsay, S. (2019). *Writing a science PhD*. Red Globe Press. [LB2369.B69 2019]
- Denholm, C., & Evans, T. (2012). *Doctorates downunder: Keys to successful study in Australia and New Zealand (2nd ed.)*. ACER. [LB2386 Doc 2012]
- Cooksey, R., & McDonald, G. (2019). *Surviving and thriving in postgraduate research*. Springer. [E book]
- Nygaard, L. (2017). *Writing your master's thesis: from A to Zen*. Sage. [LB2369.N94 2017]
- Phillips, E., & Pugh, D. S. (2010). *How to get a PhD: A handbook for students (5th ed.)*. Open University Press. [LB2386 Phi 2010; & E book]
- Rugg, G., & Petre, M. (2020). *The unwritten rules of PhD research (3rd ed.)*. Open University Press. [LB2386 .P48 2020]
- Thomson, P., & Kamler, B. (2016). *Detox your writing: Strategies for doctoral researchers*. Routledge. [LB2369.T466 2016]
- Waring, M., & Kearins, K. (2011). *Thesis survivor stories: Practical advice on getting through your PhD or Masters thesis*. AUT. [LB2369 The 2011]

Managing the writing process

- Allen, J. E., & Golde, C. M. (2019). *The productive graduate student writer: How to manage your time, process, and energy to write your research proposal, thesis, and dissertation and get published*. Stylus. [E book]
- Becker, H. S. (2020). *Writing for social scientists (3rd ed.)*. University Chicago Press. [H61.8.B43 2020; NB. 2nd ed. available as E book]
- Murray, R. (2017). *How to write a thesis (4th ed.)*. Open University Press. [LB2369.M873 2017; NB. 3rd ed. available as E-book]
- Potter, S. (Ed.) (2006). *Doing postgraduate research (2nd ed.)*. Sage & Open University Press. [LB2371.DoI 2006]
- Silvia, P. J. (2018). *How to write a lot: A practical guide to productive academic writing (2nd ed.)*. APA. [E book; NB. 1st ed. available in print at PE1408. S55 2007]

Research proposals

- Denscombe, M. (2012). *Research proposals: a practical guide*. OUP. [H62.D467 2012 & E-Book]
- Divan, A. (2009). *Communication skills for the biosciences*. OUP. [Q223 Diva 2009]
- Hart, C. (2005). *Doing your masters dissertation*. Sage. [LB2369 Har 2005]
- Paltridge, B., & Starfield, S. (2020). *Thesis and dissertation writing in a second language: A handbook for students and their supervisors (2nd ed.)*. Routledge. [E-book]

Writing thesis & dissertation sections

- argument
- structure
- writing chapters

- Bitchener, J. (2010). *Writing an applied linguistics thesis or dissertation*. Palgrave Macmillan, 2010. [LB2369 Bit]
- Boland, A., Cherry, M., & Dickson, R. (Eds.). (2017). *Doing a systematic review: A student's guide* (2nd ed.). Sage. [LB2369 .D65 2017]
- Divan, A. (2009). *Communication skills for the biosciences*. OUP. [Q223 Diva 2009]
- Evans, D., Gruba, P., & Zobel, J. (2014). *How to write a better thesis* (3rd ed.). Springer. [LB2369.E92]
- Glasman-Deal, H. (2021). *Science research writing: For native and non-native speakers of English* (2nd ed.). World Scientific. [PE1475.G57 2021; NB. 1st ed. available as [E-book](#)]
- Hart, C. (2018). *Doing a literature review: Releasing the social science research imagination* (2nd ed.). Sage. [H62 H37 2018]
- Kember, D., & Corbett, M. (2018). *Structuring the thesis: Matching method, paradigm, theories and findings*. Springer. [[E-book](#)]
- Lingard, L., & Watling, C. (2021). *Story, not study: 30 brief lessons to inspire health researchers as writers*. Springer. [[E-book](#)]
- Paltridge, B., & Starfield, S. (2020). *Thesis and dissertation writing in a second language: A handbook for students and their supervisors* (2nd ed.). Routledge. [[E-book](#)]
- Ridley, D. (2012). *The literature review: A step by step guide for students* (2nd ed.). Sage. [LB2369.R525 2012]
- Thomson, P., & Kamler, B. (2016). *Detox your writing: Strategies for doctoral researchers*. Routledge. [LB2369.T466 2016]

Writing style & accuracy

- Academic Phrasebank*. (n.d.). University of Manchester. <https://www.phrasebank.manchester.ac.uk/>
- Aliotta M. (2018). *Mastering academic writing in the sciences: A step by step guide*. CRC Press. [Q223.A37 2018]
- Cargill, M., & O'Connor, P. (2013). *Writing scientific research articles: Strategy and steps*. Wiley-Blackwell. [[E-book](#); NB. 1st ed. available in print at T11 Car 2009]
- Glasman-Deal, H. (2021). *Science research writing: For native and non-native speakers of English* (2nd ed.). World Scientific. [PE1475.G57 2021; NB. 1st ed. available as [E-book](#)]
- Hofmann, A. H. (2022). *Writing in the biological sciences : A comprehensive resource for scientific communication* (4th ed.). Oxford University Press. [QH304 .H64 2022]
- Lingard, L., & Watling, C. (2021). *Story, not study: 30 brief lessons to inspire health researchers as writers*. Springer. [[E-book](#)]
- Mewburn, I., Firth, K., & Lehmann, S. (2019). *How to fix your academic writing trouble*. Open University Press. [LB2369 .M49 2019]
- Swales, J. M., & Feak, C. (2012). *Academic writing for graduate students: Essential tasks and skills* (3rd ed.). University of Michigan Press. [LB2369 Swa 2012; & PE1408.S7836 2012]
- Swales, J. M., & Feak, C. (2000). *English in today's research world: A writing guide*. University of Michigan Press. [LB2369 Swa 2000]
- Sword, H. (2012). *Stylish academic writing*. Harvard University Press. [LB2369 Swo 2012]
- Wallwork, A. (2013). *English for academic research: Writing exercises*. Springer. [PE1408 Wal 2013]

Blogs provide valuable support and practical resources for research students. Some are hosted by current, or recently graduated, postgraduate students, and others by research advisers. Look around to find one that suits your approach. You could start with one of these: [Doctoral SIG](#) , [Patter](#) , [Thesis Whisperer](#) .

Workshops

Drop-in

Appointments