HONOURS THESIS GUIDELINES

The thesis should be a maximum of 30 pages plus tables and figures. It is strongly recommended to keep the thesis as short and succinct as possible (for example, less than 25 pages). Please use 12 point font, with double spacing and 1-inch margins. Below is an outline of the thesis format to follow.

Cover Page
The cover page should consist of the following:
- title
- name and student number
- senior supervisor, committee members
- date, time and location of thesis defense

Abstract
The abstract should consist of a single paragraph of no more than 400 words summarizing the research problem, methods, results and conclusion.

Introduction
In the introduction, state the research questions and objectives. Provide a review of the research literature to motivate the importance of the thesis. Briefly outline the content of the thesis.

Materials and Methods
Describe the data collection procedure and sources, as well as any quantitative or qualitative analysis techniques.

Results
Report results and data that led to the completion of the project. Use tables and figures where appropriate. Any supplementary information may be included in the appendix.

Discussion/Conclusions
Summarize your findings and put them into the context of the field. Avoid restating information already present in the Introduction. Include a discussion of any problems or limitations you may have encountered with your research plan or execution. Include “future work” if appropriate

Acknowledgements
Answer “who helped you with this project?” in this section.

References
No specific format is required, but choose one that is consistent with a common journal. Include full titles and all authors.

Appendix (optional)
This may include any primers used, sequences, and sequence alignments.

Updated: January 2020