Honours Thesis Guidelines

Faculty of Health Sciences, SFU

8 December 2012

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). Use 12 point font, double space with 1 inch margins.

Thesis Format:

Cover Page
- title
- name and student number
- senior supervisor, committee members
- date, time and location of thesis defense

Abstract
- in a single paragraph no more than 400 words that summarizes the research problem, methods, results and conclusion.

Introduction
- State research questions and objectives. Provide a review of the research literature to motivate the importance of the thesis. Briefly outline of the content of the thesis.

Materials and Methods
- Describe the data collection procedure and data sources. Describe 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.
- Supplementary information can be included in the appendix.
Discussion/Conclusions

- summarize your findings and put them into the context of the field.
- avoid restating info 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

- who helped you with this project?

References

- no specific format is required, but one consistent with a common journal should be used
- include full title and all authors

Appendix (optional)

- might include primers used, sequences, sequence alignments