

Format for the Preparation of Master's Theses

The thesis must be structured according to the following sections:

- Table of contents
- Summary (maximum 1 page) both in Italian and in English
- Introduction (maximum 20 pages): presentation of the state of the art related to the topic, developed from a general to a specific perspective
- Aim of the thesis (maximum 1 page): concise and clear presentation of the context of the research, the scientific question being addressed, and the objectives of the study
- Materials and Methods (maximum 10 pages): detailed description of the experimental activity: techniques, organisms, study area, analytical approaches
- Results (maximum 15 pages, including figures and tables; if this limit is exceeded, a supplementary appendix may be included): detailed description of the study's findings, following the order of the analyses presented in the previous chapter, without providing interpretations of the results.
- Discussion (maximum 5 pages): interpretation of the obtained results in light of the existing literature (as covered in the introduction), highlighting any parallels or differences with similar studies and the current state of the art.

The "Discussion" chapter may also be integrated into the "Results" chapter (Results and Discussion, maximum 20 pages).
- Conclusions (optional, maximum 1 page): summary of the study and key results obtained, future prospects, and any emerging issues.
- Bibliography (number of pages varies according to the number of citations)

1. PAGE FORMAT (valid for the entire thesis)

Margins: (Top 2.5 cm - Bottom 2.5 cm - Right 2.5 cm - Left 2.5 cm - Binding 1 cm)

2. TEST FORMAT for the thesis:

Font: Times New Roman

Font Size: 12 points

Line Spacing: 1.5

Spacing Before and After: 0

Text Alignment: Justified

Page number: at the bottom right

3. FORMAT for Headings of Chapters, Paragraphs, and Subparagraphs

CHAPTER Headings:

- Font Size: 14 points, bold, uppercase letters
- Position: Top of the page, left-aligned
- Numbering: Progressive with Arabic numerals (e.g., 1. INTRODUCTION; 2. AIMS OF THE THESIS, etc.)
- Page Break: each Chapter must begin on a new page (insert a "Page Break" at the end of the previous chapter)

Headings for PARAGRAPHS within different chapters:

- Font Size: 12 points, bold
- Position: Left-aligned
- Numbering: include the chapter number followed by progressively numbered Arabic numerals and then the paragraph heading; separate the numbers with a period (e.g., 1.1 Paragraph heading; 1.2 Paragraph heading for Chapter 1; 2.1 Paragraph heading; 2.2 Paragraph heading for Chapter 2, etc.).

SUBPARAGRAPH Headings:

- font Size: 12 points, italic
- position: left-aligned
- numbering: include the chapter number, the paragraph number, and then progressively number with Arabic numerals followed by the subparagraph heading; separate the numbers with periods (e.g., *1.1.1 Subparagraph heading; 1.1.2 Subparagraph heading for Chapter 1; 2.1.1 Subparagraph heading; 2.1.2 Subparagraph heading for Chapter 2, etc.*).

EXAMPLE:

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Phthalates

1.1.1 Metabolism of Phthalates

1.2 Effects on Human Health

1.2.1 Male Reproductive System Abnormalities

4. FORMAT for Tables and Figures and Their Source Citation

TABLES AND FIGURES:

- Each table or figure must be mentioned in the text and inserted as close as possible to that reference. It should include the chapter number and then be numbered sequentially with Arabic numerals (e.g., Figure 1.1, Figure 1.2, Table 1.1, Table 1.2, etc. for Chapter 1; Figure 2.1, Figure 2.2, Table 2.1, etc. for Chapter 2, etc.);
- tables must be centered on the page and include a heading aligned above the table with justified text, font size 11, and single spacing (e.g., **Table 1.1** Table Title). When necessary, the legend should be placed below the table;

EXAMPLE:

Table 1.1 Various types of Phthalic Acid Esters purified by microorganisms (Huang et al., 2021)

Category	Family	Species	Type of PAEs	References
Bacteria	Brevibacteriaceae	<i>Brevibacterium mcbrellneri</i>	Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate Di- <i>n</i> -butyl phthalate	[108]
Fungi	Davidiellaceae	<i>Penicillium skjabinii</i>	Di- <i>n</i> -butyl phthalate	[107]
Fungi	Davidiellaceae	<i>Penicillium olsonii</i>	Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	[111]
Bacteria	Helicobacteraceae	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	Diethyl phthalate	[38]
Bacteria	Streptomycetaceae	<i>Streptomyces melanosporofaciens</i>	Di- <i>n</i> -butyl phthalate	[109]
Bacteria	Streptomycetaceae	<i>Streptomyces albidoflavus</i>	Di- <i>n</i> -butyl phthalate	[112]
Bacteria	Streptomycetaceae	<i>Streptomyces bangladeshensis</i>	Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	[110]

- figures should be centered on the page with the caption placed below, in font size 11, aligned with the figure, and with justified text, single spacing (e.g., Figure 1.1 Caption)

EXAMPLE:

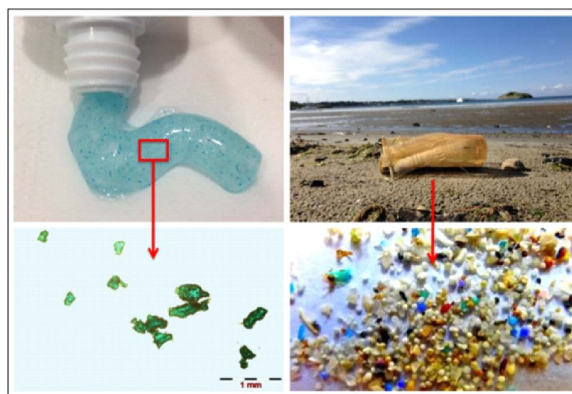


Figure 1.3 Example of microplastics derived from personal care products (toothpaste, on the left) and from the fragmentation of larger plastic pieces (on the right) (Kockisch et al., 2003)

- immediately after the heading of each table or the caption of each figure, where applicable, the SOURCE citation should be included in parentheses.

5. FORMAT for the BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES within the text:

Bibliographic citations in the text should be placed in parentheses according to the following guidelines:

- a. for a single author, indicate: (Author, Year). Example: (Rossi, 2019);
- b. for two authors: (Author1 and Author2, Year). Example: (Rossi and Bianchi, 2019);
- c. for more than two authors: (Author1 et al., Year). Example: (Rossi et al., 2019);
- d. for multiple works by the same author published in the same year, distinguish them with letters a, b, etc. Example:
 - if the works are cited in different parts of the text, they will be indicated as (Rossi et al., 2019a) and (Rossi et al., 2019b).
 - if the works are cited at the same point in the text should be indicated as (Rossi et al., 2019a, b);

e. when multiple bibliographic references are cited together, they should be included within the same parentheses in chronological order, separated by semicolons (e.g., Rossi et al., 2008; Russell and Collins, 2012; Collins, 2019).

6. FORMAT for the “Bibliography” section

In the "Bibliography" section, references should be listed in alphabetical order by the surname of the first author.

Formatting: single line spacing; hanging indent of 0.5 cm.

Article in journal

Author 1 (Surname and Initial(s) of First Name), Author 2 (Surname and Initial(s) of First Name), etc. (Year). Title of the article. *Journal Name*, Volume, page range.

Es. Rossi A, Bianchi BC, Verdi F (2021). History of biology. *Biology*, 3, 26-43.

Book

Author 1, Author 2 (Year). *Book Title*, edition. Publisher: Publisher Location, Country.

Es. Rossi A, Bianchi BC (2021). *History of biology*, 3rd ed. Springer: London, UK.

Chapter or Essay in a Book

Author 1, Author 2 (Year). Title of the chapter. In: *Book Title*, edition. Publisher: Publisher Location, Country, page range.

Es. Rossi A, Bianchi BC (2021). The cell. In: *History of biology*, 3rd ed. Springer: London, UK, pp. 26-43.

Alternatively, bibliographic references may be formatted according to APA style, as available in Google Scholar under the "Cite" option:

- Search for the bibliographic reference of interest in Google Scholar
- Click on “Cite”
- Select and copy the APA format
- Paste it into the bibliography section, ensuring the font matches that of the thesis text.

EXAMPLE:

PIF7-mediated epigenetic reprogramming promotes the transcriptional respo



PIF7-mediated epigenetic reprogramming promotes the transcriptional response to shade in *Arabidopsis*

C Yang, T Zhu, N Zhou, S Huang, Y Zeng... - The EMBO ..., 2023 - embopress.org

For shade-intolerant plants, changes in light quality through competition from neighbors trigger shade avoidance syndrome (SAS): a series of morphological and physiological adaptations that are ultimately detrimental to plant health and crop yield. Phytochrome-interacting factor 7 (PIF7) is a major transcriptional regulator of SAS in *Arabidopsis*; however, how it regulates gene expression is not fully understood. Here, we show that PIF7 directly interacts with the histone chaperone anti-silencing factor 1 (ASF1). The ASF1 ...

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Visualizzazione del risultato migliore di questa ricerca. [Mostra tutti i risultati](#)



Cita

MLA Yang, Chuanwei, et al. "PIF7-mediated epigenetic reprogramming promotes the transcriptional response to shade in *Arabidopsis*." *The EMBO Journal* (2023): e111472.

APA Yang, C., Zhu, T., Zhou, N., Huang, S., Zeng, Y., Jiang, W., ... & Li, L. (2023). PIF7-mediated epigenetic reprogramming promotes the transcriptional response to shade in *Arabidopsis*. *The EMBO Journal*, e111472.

ISO 690 YANG, Chuanwei, et al. PIF7-mediated epigenetic reprogramming promotes the transcriptional response to shade in *Arabidopsis*. *The EMBO Journal*, 2023, e111472.

[BibTeX](#) [EndNote](#) [RefMan](#) [RefWorks](#)

7. TABLE OF CONTENTS

Use the "Table of Contents" function in Word (selectable from the "References" menu). Among the available formats, choose "Manual Table of Contents."

For those using a word processing program other than Word, follow the format provided below.

However, please note that all students can download the entire Office 365 suite for free.

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8. COVER PAGE (see the following page)



UNIVERSITÀ
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**DEPARTMENT OF
BIOLOGICAL AND ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

Master's Degree Course in

XXX (LM-X)

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Supervisor

Prof./Dott. XXX

Graduating student

XXX

Co-supervisor (if applicable)

Prof./Dott. XXX

Academic Year XXX