

Manuscript-based Thesis

University Definition: a collection of manuscripts that have been submitted to reputable peer reviewed journals in the student's field of study (may have been published or accepted for publication). **Although published articles may be included, this does not guarantee the thesis will pass examination.**

The following are required for a manuscript style thesis:

1. Permission of the supervisor
2. Student must be a primary author on manuscripts and manuscripts must be current and completed for the thesis project.
3. Manuscripts can be a) deemed ready for publication by supervisor and supervisory committee; b) submitted for publication; c) accepted for publication; or d) already published. **Review articles may not be included in a manuscript-based thesis.**
 - MSc – a minimum of 1 manuscript
 - PhD – a minimum of 3 manuscripts
4. The thesis must be more than a collection of papers. It must be a cohesive body of work – a report of a single research program.
5. The thesis must contain
 - An introduction (chapter 1) providing an overview of the separate chapters and integrating the general themes of the research. The introduction may also contain additional literature review relevant to the thesis topic that does not appear in the individual chapters. If multi author manuscripts are used in the introduction, they must contain a statement of contribution to clarify the students and coauthor contributions to the manuscripts,
 - Manuscripts chapters. Each manuscript would normally stand as an individual chapter however all components must be integrated and have a logical progression between chapters. The thesis must have connecting texts to provide logical bridges between each chapter.
 - A Conclusion chapter that integrates the findings of the chapters.
6. The student must have done the majority of the writing and be primary contributor to all manuscripts in the thesis.
7. All papers must be reformatted to be in line with formatting guidelines outlined by the [University of Calgary Thesis Guidelines](#).
8. Each manuscript may have its own reference list that should not be repeated in the bibliography at the end of the thesis but should all be reformatted to have one consistent formatting style throughout the entire thesis.
9. Permission of copyright must be included for published work and signed permission obtained from coauthors to use the work as indicated in the [Thesis Guidelines](#).

Other considerations

- If all members of the supervisory committee are on the manuscripts as coauthors an additional member of the examining committee must be added.
- Multi author publications cannot be used in more than one thesis.

- If two students have worked collaboratively on projects and contributed equally it is recommended that both write traditional format theses identifying their individual contributions.