

GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR SYNOPSIS WRITING



**Department of Life Sciences
School of Science
University of Management and Technology,
Lahore, Pakistan
2018**

FORMAT OF SYNOPSIS (MS/MPHIL & PHD)

Given below is an outline for synopsis writing. It provides guidelines for organization and presentation of research in form of synopsis as well as organization of material within each section. Contents in each section tell what needs to be included in each section and how sequence of this content can be consistent across different Departments as well as within a Department.

For overall format guidelines please follow APA, Chicago or any other format prescribed by your discipline but stay consistent.

Overall synopsis organization

Title Page: Title of the study, Participant (Student)'s name, Supervisor's name, Name of the Department, Institute

List of Contents

Summary / Abstract (150-200 words)

1. Introduction (2-4 pages)

- Give Background information e.g. prevalence, statistics etc
- List down conceptual Definitions of the Constructs Under study
- Provide brief overview of theories / Models linking the topic to the available body of knowledge
- List down the theoretical frame work you will base your research work on.

2. Literature Review (2-4 pages)

- It mainly consists of review of existing relevant and related research
- Subsections can be included based on the nature of your work.
- Presents relationships between different specific constructs the researcher wants to study i.e. specify the relationships between and among variables
- Correlates and predictors of outcome variable identified in research
- May consist of a combination of mathematical, graphical, and/or diagrammatical presentations
- Provide an overview of Indigenous Researches i.e. overview of relevant research done in Pakistan

Statement of the Problem

- Identify the research gaps and justify the conduct of the study
- It serves as a guide in formulating the specific objectives of the study

Significance / Rational of the Study

- It refers to justification, importance, and vital contribution of the findings of the study / research and its likely benefits.
- Why is it worth doing?
- While the particular topic and its context will determine a study's significance and contribution of a study in terms of: adding to the existing knowledge in the area; policy considerations; implications for practitioners etc.

Objectives of the Study

List down main objectives of the Study

Hypotheses / Research questions

- States the researcher's expectations concerning the relationships between the variables or differences in groups or treatment conditions in research

3. Methodology (2-3 pages)

Research Design

- Specify whether descriptive, causal/explanatory, correlational, comparative, exploratory, evaluative or combination of two or more designs
- Design: Strategy & Frame work
- What strategy is proposed, quantitative or qualitative?
- If both quantitative/qualitative (mixed method) approaches are targeted then what would be the mixture of the proposed strategies.

Sample/ Participants

- The sampling strategy, especially whether it is probability (its type), non probability (its type), or both and what claims will be made for the generalizability of findings.
- Inclusion / exclusion criteria of the sample
- How Sample will be recruited and approached
- What would be the Sample size and how the size will be determined

Operational Definitions of the Variables (optional)

- Define constructs of the study as they will be measured / assessed

Data Collection Techniques / Assessment Measures

- Whether you will use already developed Instruments Used (provide detail).
- Whether Instruments will be development, (give detail)
- Other ways of eliciting Data (qualitative e.g. focus group discussion, interviews, texts etc)
- Material and method for observations

Procedure

- How the data will be collected i.e. taking necessary approvals /permissions, logistic arrangements and assessment etc

Ethical Considerations: consent/access/and participants' protection

- List down issues like informed consent, anonymity, confidentiality of data, data storage, and the use of the results etc.
- Other can be study specific like intervention and advocacy etc. etc.

4. Proposed Analyses

- Indicates the most appropriate analysis used for both quantitative (descriptive, inferential statistics) and qualitative data.
- Mathematical expressions must be italicized and numbered accordingly
- All models/equations must be properly numbered
- All major/key variables must be properly measured/categorized, indicating their specific units of measure.
- The sources of formulas must be indicated in the text.

5. Limitations & Delimitations (if Applicable)

- Limitations refer to limiting conditions or restrictive weaknesses
- Delimitations refer to defining the limits or drawing the boundaries around the study, and showing clearly what is and what is not included.

6. Time Frame of Dissertation

Must be provided for planning.

7. List of References

- Follow APA, Chicago or any other format prescribed for your discipline for writing references
- Ensure to match list of references with those given in citations.

8. Appendices

- Participant Information Sheet, Letter for permission, Participant Consent form, Measuring instruments
- Interview guides, observational schedule, Assessment tools
- Example of pilot study or any other data/work already completed.

Prepared by the Committee constituted in the 100th Dean Committee meeting

Samples of Title page, References, Table of contents

Tables: Tables should be numbered consecutively and must have descriptive captions which should be understandable without reference to the text. Table caption should be above the table. Instead of creating multiple small tables, the author is requested to consolidate small tables into a comprehensive one as far as possible. However, please take care that they must fit the available space (7.5 x 5 inches) of the paper. Table number should be according to the chapter number e.g., Table in Chapter 1 must be numbered like 1.1, 1.2 and so on.

For example, **Table 1.1:** Title of the table should not be bold.

Figures: Photographic prints must be of high quality and with strong contrast. Figure caption should be below the figure. Figure number should be according to the chapter number e.g., Figure in Chapter 1 must be numbered like 1.1, 1.2 and so on. For example,

Figure 1.1: Title of the figure should not be bold.

References: The authors must stick to the APA style while formatting their references and bibliography.

- In the text, the literature should be cited using author-date method. In case of one author it should be like (Stephens, 1961).
- In case of two authors, both authors must be separated with "&" e.g. (Brown & Endrizzi, 1964). However, in running text, a complete "and" should be used rather than "&" e.g. "Brown and Endrizzi (1964) reported that".
- In case of more than two authors, the name of first author should be followed by et al. e.g. (Ashraf et al., 2008).
- In case of two or more citations in the text, the citation must be ordered in chronological order (Stephens, 1961; Brown & Endrizzi, 1964; Ashraf et al., 1991, Ashraf, 2004; Sajid & Aqeel; 2008).
- In case of publications by the same author in the same year, the references must be separated by a, b, c etc (e.g. Ashraf et al., 2004a, 2004b; Ashraf and Ali, 2008).
- Write the journal name in italics form e.g; *Molecular biology report*.

Journal article

- References should be arranged in alphabetical order and the titles of journals should be given full. Avoid using et.al and enlist the names of all authors of publication.
- All authors name. (Year). Title of the article. *Full Journal Name*. Issue No; Page No.

For Example:

If there is only one author, then:

- Afzal, M.S. (2017). Hepatitis C Virus and Interferon-Free Antiviral Therapeutics Revolution: Implications for Pakistan. *Viral Immunology*. 2; 3-7

If there are two authors, then:

- Misra, S., & Sharma, K. (2017). Pharmacophore modeling, atom-based 3D-QSAR generation and virtual screening of molecules projected for mPGES-1 inhibitory activity. *SAR and QSAR in Environmental Research*, 28(1), 17-39.

If there are more than two authors, then:

- Sticca, T., Caberg, J. H., Wenric, S., Poulet, C., Herens, C., Jamar, M., & Gothot, A. (2017). Genomic studies of multiple myeloma reveal an association between X chromosome alterations and genomic profile complexity. *Genes, Chromosomes and Cancer*, 56(1), 18-27.

Book

- Davis, P.H. (1988). *Flora of Turkey and East Aegean Islands*. (3rd Ed) Edinburgh University Press, London, UK.

Book Chapter

- Alam, S.M. (2002). Nutrient by plants under stress conditions. In: Pessrakli, M. (2nd Ed.) *Handbook of Plant and Crop Stress*. Marcel Dekker, New York, USA. pp. 227-246.
- Ashraf, M.Y., Sarwar, G. (2002). Salt tolerance potential in source members of Brassicaceae: Physiological studies on water relations and minerals contents.
- Ahmad, R., Malik, K.A. (Eds.) *Prospects for Saline Agriculture*. Klawer Academic Publishers, the Netherlands, pp. 237 -245.

Edited Book

- Rechinger, K.H. (Ed.) *Flora of Iran. 1963-2005*. Klawer Academic Publishers, The Netherlands, pp.267-289

General Guidelines

- Preliminary pages must be added and numbered in roman till introduction page.
- Scientific/ Species names must be in italic. i.e., *Hepacivirus*, *Alium cepa*
- In case of mentioning more than two authors, the name of first author should be followed by et al e.g. (Ashraf et al., 2008).
- Plagiarism of the synopsis must be less than 19%.

**EVALUATION OF R1587K POLYMORPHISM IN ABCA1
GENE ASSOCIATED WITH HDL LEVEL IN LOCAL
POPULATION**

Note: (16 point, Bold, Times New Roman, Centered, Single Line Spacing, Uppercase)



Student Name: M. Muneeb Sohail ID: 15003231044

Note: (16 point, Times New Roman, Capitalize each word)

Supervisor

Note: (16 point, Times New Roman, Bold)

Muhammad Zaid

Note: (16 point, Times New Roman, Capitalize each word)

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Note: (Single line spacing, 16 point, Times New Roman, Centered, Bold)

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	Page No.
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES.....	
MATERIALS AND METHODS.....	
Anthropometric Measurements.....	
Blood Sample Collection.....	
DNA Isolation.....	
Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR).....	
Statistical Analysis.....	
TIMELINE.....	
REFERENCES.....	

TIMELINE

- A. Literature Review (Completed)
- B. Primer Designing (Completed)
- C. Sample Collection
- D. Lipid Profiling
- E. PCR Studies

