

PhD THESES

Department of Life Sciences (DCV)

March 2024

Preliminary Note

The rules for the 3rd Cycles of Studies at the Department of Life Sciences (DCV) are detailed in the Academic Regulations of the University of Coimbra (RAUC; Regulation no. 805-A/2020) and in the "Academic Activities Regulations of the Faculty of Sciences and Technology of the University of Coimbra" (RAA-FCTUC; Regulation no. 1010/2021). This document provides guidelines to assist students enrolled in the DCV's PhD programs organizing their PhD Thesis.

Thesis format

The Thesis must be written in Portuguese, English or Spanish, following the UC's Visual Identity standards, particularly in terms of the cover design (<https://www.uc.pt/identidadevisual/recursos-academicos/>). However, in exceptional cases, the use of other foreign languages in both the Thesis and the public defense may be approved, on the proposal of the Scientific Committee of the Department responsible for the PhD study cycle.

The title page should include not only the title and the author's full name but also a reference to the DCV, a clear indication of the degree/speciality, as well as supervisors' names. Subsequent pages are reserved to a mention to financial support, institutional and/or personal acknowledgements, and a statement recognizing the contributions of other parties to the presented work. Following this, in both Portuguese and English, the abstract with 2,500 to 5,000 characters (including spaces) and keywords (5 words of up to 30 characters) with spaces should be provided. The following pre-textual elements should include: the table of contents and, as optional elements, the lists of tables and figures and the list of abbreviations.

There is no mandatory model for organizing the text. Acceptable formats include the "classic" thesis format (for example, Introduction, Material and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusions, or Introduction, Body of the Work, and Conclusion). Alternatively, as outlined in article 58/2 of the RAUC, a "compilation, properly contextualized within the current state of the art, consisting of a coherent and relevant collection of research works. These works may have been previously published, either in part or in full, in journals with selection committees of recognized international merit. The compilation should include a comprehensive discussion of the results, general conclusions, and implications or innovative elements."

In cases where the Thesis is a compilation of works/articles, it is recommended to maintain a consistent formatting throughout the entire document. This includes uniformity in font size and type, spacing and style of citation of references in the text. There should only be one set of References at the end of the Thesis, rather than a separate list for each chapter.

The thesis may incorporate post-textual elements, such as appendices and/or annexes.

To assist in maintaining a coherent format, the following guidelines are suggested: utilize A4 size paper, with a vertical orientation; ensure that all tables, charts and figures fit within the specified margins; use a font size of 11-12 for the text (considering Times New Roman or equivalent) and 1.5 spacing; employ Roman numerals for pagination of the pre-textual elements and Arabic numerals in the main text.