

Chapter 3

Components of the thesis

The thesis components have 4 important parts as follows;

1. **Frontage** such as Cover, Title page, Certification, Abstract, Dedication, Acknowledgement, Table of contents, List of tables, List of figures, List of Abbreviations.
2. **Content** is a presentation of thesis.
3. **Citation** such as in text citations and References
4. **Supplement** such as Appendices and Vitae

For examples of writing format of the thesis, see Appendices. The details of the components are presented as follows;

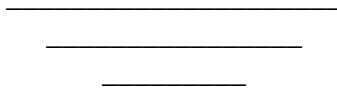
1. Frontage

1.1 Cover

Cover should be made of hard paper with a Navy blue (dark blue) color for a Master's Degree thesis and a black color for a Doctoral Degree, with embossed gold lettering. The cover is comprised of:

1.1.1 Front cover symbol and text are assigned as follows;

- 1) Embossed Khon Kaen University logo with gold color, sized 3.5 centimeters at the center of the cover, with a top margin of 2.5 centimeters.
- 2) If there are both Thai and English titles of the thesis, the Thai letters should be about 3-4 letters/cm. and the English letter should be smaller or equal to the Thai letters. If the title is more than 1 line long, divide the line in form of revert triangle.



- 3) Insert titles such as Mr./Mrs./Miss. in front of the author's name, including rank, rank of nobility, title conferred by the king, and priest rank, except qualifications and post. Align the name at the center of the page.
- 4) Designate type of works and level of degrees, as well as program and level of thesis.
- 5) State Khon Kaen University as the name of the institution.
- 6) State year of graduation as the year of publication.

[For an example of the Cover format, see Appendix B page 106-108]

1.1.2 Back cover blank page without any text.

1.1.3 Spine embossed along the length of spine, with a top margin of 2.5 cm.; including number of thesis, title in Thai, the author name without title, and graduation year.

Thesis number is assigned by the Graduate School and is comprised of 6 digits of which the significance is as follows:

The first 2 digits indicate the program code and subject.

The last 4 digits indicate the number of students who completed thesis in each subject.

For example 01-0020 means Master Thesis of Science in Botany and completed thesis twentieth of the department.

The numbering of a Doctoral thesis would place ๑ in front such as ๑10-0002

[For example of spine, see Appendix B page 109]

1.2 Title page

Title page of a Thai thesis will have 2 pages; a Thai title page and an English title page. An English thesis, however, will have only 1 title page; written in English. Title page contains details of...

1.2.1 Thesis title

1.2.2 The author's name

1.2.3 Presentation of thesis type, program, subject, university, year of graduated.

[For example of Title page, see Appendix B page 110-112]

1.3 Certification

Certification is the document that officially certifies a thesis. If it is a Thai thesis, the certification must be in Thai. If it is an English thesis, the certification must be in English. The certification shall be comprised of Khon Kaen University's logo, the name of the university, program, subject, title, the name of author, list of thesis defense committee members (without signature), list of thesis advisors (with signature), and the name and signature of Graduate School's Dean and Faculty's Dean (For Multidisciplinary Program, comprised only signature of Graduate School's Dean). The last line must state the copyright.

[For example of Certification, see in Appendix B page 113-114]

1.4 Abstract

The Abstract is a short, concise and clear summary of the thesis that allows readers to quickly and easily understand the context of thesis. The Abstract shall not exceed 1 page of A4 as specified by the assigned format. The components of the Abstract are divided into 2 parts; a Header which designates the name of the thesis author, year of publication (as stated on the front cover), the title of the thesis, degree and program, and the list of thesis advisors; and the text of the Abstract which includes the summary of research objectives, research methodology, research findings, and potential application of the research.

The Abstract must include both Thai and English versions regardless of the language used in the body of the thesis. In arranging the Abstract, the Thai version shall appear first, followed by the English version. A good Abstract should meet these criteria;

1) **Accurate** The Abstract's content must be correct and correspond to the thesis.

2) **Comprehensive** The Abstract should be a complete representation of research methodology, allowing readers to easily understand research findings throughout the thesis.

3) Precise The Abstract should be concise and as meaningful as possible, while avoiding focus on unnecessary points, or over emphasizing of details.

4) Informative The Abstract should report only logical information and avoiding criticism; therefore, it should not contain any critiques.

5) Readable The Abstract should be written in polished language with respect to theory and grammars; use complete sentences in active voice; segment the content appropriately through use of indentation; avoid using initials or contractions; do not include unnecessary quotes, formulas, equations, tables or figures in the Abstract; and do not include references. For the English Abstract, use past tense when referring to research objectives and methodology, and use present tense when referring to research findings and research application.

[For an example Abstract, see Appendix B page 115-117]

1.5 Dedication

Dedication is not a necessary part of a thesis, omission or inclusion is at the discretion of the writer. Dedication is usually made to someone as a token of gratitude acknowledging support or inspiration in completing the thesis. If a dedication is inserted in the thesis, align the dedication statements in the center and the statement must be short.

[For example of Dedication, see Appendix B page 118]

1.6 Acknowledgements

The statements of gratitude to any supporters and contributors to the thesis, to whom the researcher is indebted, must not exceed 1 page.

[For example of Acknowledgements, see Appendix B page 119]

1.7 Table of contents

The table of contents lists all thesis sections arranged in order of page number, proceeding from Abstract to Vitae. Chapter, title, Main headers, sub-headers and sections listed in the table of contents must correspond to those appearing in the main text. If the thesis is in Thai, the table of contents shall be written in Thai. If the thesis is in English, the table of contents shall be written in English.

The designated number of Main headers may be inserted or not. For Sub-headers, do not insert more than 1 issue, for example; if issue 1 of Main headers has Sub-headers, insert only 1.1; do not insert 1.1.1 or 1.1.1.1 For further details, look in the context.

[For example of Table of contents, see Appendix B page 120-121]

1.8 List of tables

List of tables lists all of the tables appearing in the thesis (if any/ include tables in Appendices) and page number as appearing in the thesis. If the title of a table exceeds 1 line, start the new line aligned with the previous. In addition, the tables presented in List of tables must correspond to the context. If it is a Thai language Thesis, write the list of tables in Thai. If it is English, write the list of tables in English.

If the thesis contains only one table, it is unnecessary to include a List of tables.

[For example of Lists of tables, see Appendix B page 122]

1.9 List of figures

List of figures shows all of the figures (pictures, map, charts, graphs, etc.) appearing in the thesis (include figures in Appendices). The title in the List of figures must correspond to those in context. If it is a Thai language Thesis, write the list of figures in Thai. If it is English, write the lists of figures in the English.

If the thesis contains only one figure, it is unnecessary to include a List of figures.

[For example of Lists of figures, see Appendix B page 123]

1.10 List of abbreviations

Describes symbols and abbreviations used throughout the thesis (if any).

[For example of Lists of abbreviations, see Appendix B page 124]

2. Context

2.1 Context of thesis can be presented in either of the following types;

2.1.1 Research Book can be divided into chapters and may designate number of chapters. Numbering and structure of each chapter should follow thesis advisor's suggestions as to accepted research methodology in each subject. Generally, the components of the thesis context should be comprised of;

- 1) Introduction. This is the first chapter that presents the following issues;
 - 1.1) Background and definition of research problems
 - 1.2) Objectives of the research
 - 1.3) Hypothesis of the research
 - 1.4) The scope of the research
 - 1.5) Primary agreement
 - 1.6) Meaning and definition of technical terms
 - 1.7) The anticipated outcomes
- 2) Literature review. This section compiles relevant theories, concepts, related research, or previous data.
- 3) Research methodology. This section provides methods, steps or processes of research, equipment, materials, accessories and approach used in research, including research finding and analysis.
- 4) Results and discussion. This section outlines the results of the research and a discussion these results. This may be included in one chapter or separated depending on the type of research.
- 5) Conclusions and/or suggestions. This section summarizes the whole main issue in thesis and provides suggestions for further research and benefits of research application.

2.1.2 Collection of research articles This is a compilation of research articles pertaining to the approved thesis. The articles may be selected from amongst those published in pamphlets, accepted for publication, or presented in prior academic conferences. The format has 3 components as follows;

1) Introduction. Presents the background and significance of the problem, research objectives, and scopes of each research article. The connection between each research article and the thesis should be made explicit.

2) Context. This is a section involves the research articles themselves that student could present in the form published without changes.

3) Summary and conclusion. This section must indicate the connection between each research article presented in the context, and provide suggestions for research applications as well as further research.

3. Citation

For details and examples of citations in the thesis, look in Chapter 5 and Chapter 6.

[For example of References, see Appendix B page 125]

4. Supplement

4.1 Appendices

Appendices are intended to include any relevant details that can aid the thesis context such as details of the process of calculation, relevant formulas, tools, experimental method, tests or polls used in the research, etc. The first page of this section should align the word Appendices at center, between Citation and Supplement. If there are many appendices, divide into Appendix A, B, C... respectively.

[For example of Appendices, see Appendix B page 126-127]

4.2 Research Publications

Designate the publication details of all works if the thesis was published in the following editions;

- Patents
- Research articles published or being responded to in academic journals.
- Research articles published in conference proceedings
- Presentations at academic conferences, both as lectures or posters.

The information that should be included is the name of the author or the name of the research owner, the title of research, journal of publication or conferences presented at; printing information such as volume, issue, date, and page number of printed journal, or the name of the conference, place and date of the conference; by choosing either Citations styles as appeared in Chapter 5 and Chapter 6.

For Doctoral Degree students, Master Degree Plan A Type A(1), and students applied from academic year 2005 onward requires thesis publication as a prerequisite for graduation and should include the following details about thesis publication as required for graduation;

Master Degree Plan A

The thesis must be published or accepted for publication resulting from the work of the thesis research, or the student should present the research at a conference where the paper presented will be published in the proceedings.

Doctoral Degree Type 1 and Type 2

The thesis must be published or at least one peer reviewed journal paper must be published or accepted for publication resulting from the work of the thesis research involving a review by an external committee prior to publication and should be accepted by the program.

[For example of Research Publication, see Appendices B page 128 and Announcement on Thesis Publication for Graduate (66/2007) in Appendix D page 142]

4.3 Vitae (if any)

The author's biography should not exceed 1 page and must be the last page of thesis. This page should include information about the author such as name and surname with title, Mr. Mrs. Miss., rank, rank of nobility, title conferred by the king and priest rank, date and place of birth, educational certification from bachelor degree, institute and year of graduation, academic experience, awards and scholarships, and current work position and place of employment.

[For example of Vitae, look in Appendices B page 129]

Summary of thesis components

The thesis written in English should have the following components written in English with some sections in Thai

1. Front cover
2. Title page
3. Certification
4. Abstract (in Thai)
5. Abstract (in English)
6. Dedication (optional)
7. Acknowledgements
8. Table of Contents
9. List of Tables (if any)
10. List of Figures (if any)
11. List of Abbreviations (if any)
12. Context of the thesis or independent study report (with citations in text)
13. References or Bibliography
14. Appendices (if any)
15. Research Publications
16. Vitae (optional)