



Thesis Guideline
Anthropology Programme
Department of Economic and Social Sciences
BRAC University

What is a thesis?

Students majoring in Anthropology are required to conduct research and write a senior thesis in their last semester. A thesis by definition is a proposition backed up by research based evidence. Evidences are either constituted by data collected during the fieldwork or obtained through other forms of research (i.e. historical documents, genealogy, letters etc.). However, a senior thesis will not merely focus on describing sets of anthropological phenomena. In addition, the thesis will analyze data and represent an interpretive understanding of the phenomena. Students are expected to have a clear theoretical framework in order to pose appropriate research questions. Original Data may critique the existing theories or establish an original model by reinterpreting existing theories. Regardless the methods a student must go beyond the simplistic narratives of the problem and provide the reader a coherent argument with solid analysis of the data.

Organization

A thesis should have an introduction, a body and a conclusion, divided into chapters. At the beginning of the thesis students must introduce the issue/problem and then the methods/techniques they want to use to approach in data collection and analyze the issue. The body of the thesis should present the analysis of the data in a coherent and explicit manner, divided into various chapters. Chapters should be organized in a manner that the readers understand their logic, order and relevance. Finally, the conclusion should summarize the arguments made in the thesis, reflect its strength and weakness and how s/he has modified the theories s/he have engaged with.

Length

A thesis length should be between 10,000-12,000 words. Students are advised to consult with their advisor about the length and structure of the thesis in progress. Students are also advised to seek help from Writing Center, BIL for stylization.

Style

- Use APA/MLA/Chicago citation style for referencing/bibliography.
- Use clear headings and sub heading in **Bold** letters.
- Use Times New Roman 12-point fonts and double spacing
- Leave 1-inch margins at the top and bottom of the page and on the right and leave a 2-inch margin on the left for binding.
- Use one side of the page only.

Copies/Binding

Student must submit **3 printed and bound copies** of the thesis and one pdf copy of the work via secure electronic transfer. These copies of the theses will be distributed to the three assigned readers (one of whom will be the advisor) on thesis committee. The printed copy of thesis will be kept in the repository in the library.

Title Page

Title page should include BRACU logo, title of the thesis, student's information (Follow the Sample Page)

Timeline

- Week 1 : Proposal submission (with the name of preferred supervisor) to the thesis committee and Clearance from IRB
- Week 2-3 : Research Frame Work (Literature Review)
- Week 4-5 : Field Work
- Week 6-7 : First Draft – Identifying gaps (Theoretical/Empirical)
- Week 8-9 : Field Work
- Week 10-11: Draft 2
- Week 12 : Final Presentation

[Title] (Centered approximately 1/4 down the page)

A thesis presented by

[Name and ID]

to

the Department of Anthropology
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree with honors
of Bachelor of Arts

BRAC University

[Month and Year of Submission]