

Research



Research



How to write a BA thesis?

Department of English Applied Linguistics



Topics to be covered

1. Content of the BA thesis
2. Formal requirements of the BA thesis
3. Submission
4. Marking
5. Further information



Content



Format



Submission



Marking



Information



1. Content of the BA thesis

1.1. Quality of the thesis

1.2. Sections of the thesis



1.1. Quality of the thesis

- The written thesis should convincingly show...
 - the student's **ability to synthesize** the researched material;
 - that he or she is able to **engage in academic work** on a suitable level;
 - his or her knowledge and handling of the **methodological and stylistic requirements** of a piece of written English discourse.



1.2. Sections

- **BA thesis in English applied linguistics**
 - **Introduction:** formulates a question based on the topic advertised and establishes the rationale for the study;
 - **Body:** compares and contrasts the sources in order to answer the question formulated in the introduction;
 - **Summary and conclusion:** summarizes the analysis and provides an answer to the question.



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2. Formal requirements

2.1. Length and layout

2.2. Documentation



2.1. Length and layout

- Length: min. 40,000n (approx. 20 pages), max. +10% (without cover pages, contents, references, appendices, etc.)
- Font: Times New Roman 12 pt, double-spaced, with 1-inch (2.5 cm) margins
- Language: English
- Statement of originality



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2. Formal requirements

2.1. Length and layout

2.2. Documentation



2.2. Documentation

- min. 5-10 credible, accurate, reasonable, and supported sources required
- APA-style citation (5th ed.)
 - in-text citation (No more than 15% of the thesis can be direct quotation. The rest should be a combination of appropriately referenced **paraphrase and summary** of sources and the thesis writer's **views and own ideas**);
 - references section.



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2.2. Documentation (– cont'd –)

- adequate use and embedding of examples, tables, and figures
- Plagiarism (i.e., the intentional yet uncredited reproduction of someone else's work, ideas, or words) will result in a fail.



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3. Submission

- two printed copies: one bound (“kötött”); one wire/plastic comb bound (“fűzött”)
- one electronic copy (Portable Document Format, PDF)
- deadline: **15 May 2009**
- to be submitted to **Building “A”, Rm. 17**



Content
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4. Marking

- Content: 50/75 points (66%)
- Language: 25/75 points (33%)
 - Organization
 - Documentation
 - Accuracy (grammar, spelling, punctuation, and length)
 - Appropriacy (vocabulary and style)
 - Statement of originality



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5. Further information

- Formal requirements (including cover sheet requirements, in Hungarian):
 - <http://seas3.elte.hu/seas/studies/graduation/BA/thesis.html>
- Formal requirements (including cover sheet requirements, in English):
 - http://ludens.elte.hu/~deal/pages/thesis_files/formal_requirements.pdf



5. Further information (– cont'd –)

- Electronic submission requirements (in Hungarian):
 - <http://seas3.elte.hu/seas/studies/graduation/BA/ba-thesis-e-submission.html>
- APA citation guidelines (in English):
 - http://ludens.elte.hu/~deal/pages/thesis_files/apa.pdf
- Sample statement of originality (Certificate of research):
 - <http://seas3.elte.hu/seas/studies/graduation/thesis.html>