



جامعة صحر
Sohar University

Guide for Formatting PhD Thesis

2026 – 2027

Sohar University

نضيء المستقبل
Enlightening the Future

Introduction

Sohar University is considered one of the leading academic institutions in the Sultanate of Oman. Through its graduate studies programs, the University seeks to contribute to the advancement of scientific research and to enhance the research capabilities of students in a manner consistent with the requirements of contemporary development and modern knowledge. The University offers doctoral programs in six specializations across five colleges, namely: the College of Business, the College of Computing and Information Technology, the Faculty of Education and Arts, the College of Engineering, and the College of Law.

These programs underscore the University's commitment to its mission of preparing highly qualified research scholars who possess the scientific and methodological competence necessary to produce original knowledge and to develop innovative solutions to contemporary challenges across various disciplines.

In recognition of the importance of the doctoral thesis and its central role in enriching knowledge and advancing scientific research, Sohar University has developed this guide as a reference for graduate students and members of supervisory committees. The guide outlines the general framework for writing academic theses and the requirements for their preparation in accordance with approved scientific and academic standards. It also aims to ensure a unified format for doctoral theses submitted to the University and to promote the principles of academic writing and research ethics, thereby reflecting the quality of Sohar University's research output and its academic excellence.

Font Type, Size, and Color

First: Theses Written in Arabic

1. The official font Simplified Arabic shall be used throughout all parts of the thesis, including tables and appendices.
2. Font size:
 - Thesis title on the cover page: 20 pt (Bold)
 - Main headings: 16 pt (Bold)
 - Subheadings: 14 pt (Bold)
 - Body text: 14 pt (Regular)
3. Font color: Black only; the use of colors is permitted in figures and charts.
4. The thesis shall be printed on A4 paper, single-sided only.
5. Line and paragraph spacing: 1.5 spacing.
6. A smaller font size (12 pt) may be used in tables or footnotes.

Second: Theses Written in English

1. The official font Times New Roman shall be used.
2. Font size:
 - Thesis title: 20 pt (Bold)
 - Main headings: 14 pt (Bold)
 - Subheadings: 12 pt (Bold)
 - Body text: 12 pt (Regular)
3. Font color: Black only; the use of colors is permitted in figures and charts.
4. The thesis shall be printed on A4 paper, single-sided only.
5. Spacing: Double spacing (2.0).
6. Text alignment: Justified.

Margins

1. Margins shall be set as follows:
 - Top: 2.5 cm
 - Bottom: 3 cm
 - Binding side: 4 cm
 - Outer side: 2.5 cm
2. Page numbers shall be placed at the bottom center of the page.
3. The same margins shall be applied consistently across all chapters and appendices.

Pagination

4. All pages shall be numbered except the cover page and the title page.
5. Arabic letters (أ، ب، ج، ...) shall be used for the preliminary pages in Arabic theses, while Roman numerals (i, ii, iii, ...) shall be used for English theses.
6. Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, ...) shall be used for the main body of the thesis.
7. Page numbers shall appear centered at the bottom of the page, without parentheses.

Punctuation

8. Proper punctuation marks shall be used in accordance with the language of the thesis.
9. One space shall be left after each punctuation mark, and no space shall precede it.
10. The APA 7th Edition style shall be followed to ensure consistency in academic formatting.

Binding and Cover

11. Cover color:
 - Dark blue for doctoral theses.
 - Dark green for master's theses.



PG Student's Dissertation/Project Bound Colour Code

These These suggested colors for the Postgraduate Studies and thesis cover book:

Master Studies:

Suggested color:

- ✓ Green 
- ✓ Code of color: 2B5E4F
- ✓ CMYK: C=81 M=38 Y=65 K=35
- ✓ RGB: R=43 G=94 B=79

Reasons:

- The start was for this color as the Master of Education is the initial postgraduate major in SU.
- One of SU corporate colors.
- It is clear to read the text in silver color as it is compatible with SU grey corporate color.
- The availability of this color (leather) in the printing press.

PHD Thesis:

Suggested color:

- ✓ Dark Blue 
- ✓ Code of color: 1A253C
- ✓ CMYK: C=97 M=82 Y=46 K=54
- ✓ RGB: R=26 G=37 B=60

Reasons:

- One of SU corporate colors
- It is clear to read the text in silver color as it is compatible with SU grey corporate color
- In my research, this color is the common color used for PHD thesis and matching SU corporate colors in the same time
- The availability of this color (leather) in the printing press

Notes to be considered:

- Implementing SU logo and keeping its proportion.
- To have the silver color for writing.

2. All text on the cover and spine shall be printed in gold color.
3. The cover shall correspond exactly to the internal title page.
4. The student's name, year of graduation, college, university, and country, along with the © symbol, shall be printed at the bottom of the cover.
5. The spine shall include: the student's name – a shortened title – the year of graduation.
6. The thesis shall be printed on high-quality white A4 paper and thermally bound.
7. One hard copy and one electronic copy in PDF format shall be submitted.



جامعة صحر
Sohar University

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-BASED
PERFORMANCE OPTIMIZATION AND
CONDITION MONITORING OF WIND TURBINE
SYSTEM WITH DEFECTIVE BLADE THROUGH
VIBRATION ANALYSIS APPROACH**

Abdulhamed Hamdan Humaid Al-Hinai

**A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of
requirements for the degree
Doctor of Engineering
in
Mechanical and Mechatronic Engineering**

**Faculty of Engineering
Sohar University
Sultanate of Oman**

January 2026

Abdulhamed Hamdan Humaid Al-Hinai

Doctor of Engineering

2026

List of Tables

1. The list shall include all tables presented in the thesis.
2. Format:

Table No.	Table Title	Page
1	Web Technologies Used in University Libraries	25

List of Figures

1. The list shall include all figures, illustrations, and charts presented in the thesis.
2. Format:

Table No.	Table Title	Page
1	The Proposed Conceptual Framework of the Study	30

List of Abbreviations

1. This list shall be used to explain scientific symbols and abbreviations.
2. Format:

Abbreviation	English Equivalent
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
TQM	Total Quality Management

Preliminary Pages

The preliminary pages shall include the following, in the order listed:

1. Cover Page

- The cover page and title page shall be printed in bold black font, size 20 pt.

- The thesis title must be free of spelling and linguistic errors and should accurately reflect the content and scope of the study.
- It is recommended that the title be carefully reviewed to ensure its consistency with the final approved thesis title.
- The page shall also include the student's information, the academic department, and the degree awarded.

2. Title Page

The thesis title shall be written in 20 pt font in a clear and precise manner, accurately reflecting the study's topic and objectives. It is recommended that the title be linguistically reviewed before final approval.

3. Declaration Page

The student shall provide a declaration affirming that the thesis is their own original work and that it has not been previously submitted by anyone else for the award of any academic degree.

مركز الدراسات العليا Postgraduate Center	جامعة صحرار Sohar University
تعهد طالب الدراسات العليا Pledge of PhD Student	
I Student ID..... Enrolled in the PhD program Faculty: Hereby certify that I have abided by Sohar University's bylaws and guidelines, and that I have written my thesis in accordance with the principles of academic integrity and scientific honesty adopted by Sohar University. I affirm that my work maintains scientific originality, and I accept full legal responsibility for any proven violation of these principles.	أتعهد أنا الطالب/ة: الرقم الجامعي المسجل به دكتوراه. كلية: أقر بأنني قد التزمت بأنظمة وتعليمات جامعة صحرار، وكتبت أطروحتي وفق أسس الأمانة العلمية المعمول بها في جامعة صحرار. ملتزمًا بالأصالة العلمية والنزاهة البحثية، وأتحمل كامل المسؤولية القانونية في حال ثبوت أي مخالفة لمبادئ الأمانة العلمية أو انتهاك لحقوق الملكية الفكرية
Student signature Date/...../20...	توقيع الطالب/ة التاريخ:/...../20...

4. Authorization Page

The student shall provide an authorization statement granting Sohar University, represented by the Learning Resources Center (Main Library), the right to supply various databases with a copy of the thesis.

مركز الدراسات العليا
Postgraduate centre

جامعة صحر
Sohar University

اتفاقية نقل حقوق الطبع والنشر Copyright Transfer Agreement

Instructions

This form is a written agreement between Sohar University and students and giving a full authority of transferring their Projects/Thesis/Dissertations to (Sohar University).

تعليمات

هذا النموذج عبارة عن اتفاقية مكتوبة بين جامعة صحر وطلبة الدراسات العليا وبها إعطاء حق طبع ونشر مشاريعهم / رسائلهم / أطروحاتهم إلى جامعة صحر.

Name:	اسم الطالب/ة
ID:	الرقم الجامعي:
Address:	العنوان:
Mobile:	رقم الهاتف:
E-mail:	البريد الإلكتروني:
Dissertation title:	عنوان الأطروحة:

I hereby declare on behalf of myself, that:

أقر أنا الموقع أدناه بما يلي:

Research Work submitted is on original work and has neither been published before.	أن عملي البحثي المقدم هو عملي الأصلي ولم ينشر من قبل.
I am the only author of my Research Work.	أنا المؤلف الوحيد لعملي البحثي.
I grant the copyrights of my Research Work to Sohar University.	إعطاء حق طبع عملي البحثي إلى جامعة صحر.

Student' signature

Date

5. Dedication Page (Optional)

The dedication in a thesis is an expression of the student's gratitude to a group of close individuals who played a significant role in completing the thesis and provided continuous support throughout the writing process. This may include a personal dedication to parents, siblings, spouse, or relatives, a general dedication, or a combination of both. The dedication shall not exceed one page.



مركز الدراسات العليا
Postgraduate Centre

DEDICATION

I dedicate this study from bottom of my heart to my loving parents and my wife for their endless support, encouragement and love.

I also dedicate this work to my whole family and friends for their supportive words and encouragement during my study period.

Lastly, special dedication of this work to all teachers who taught me since I was kid till the moment of writing these simple words.

6. Acknowledgements Page

This page includes expressions of gratitude and appreciation, where the student acknowledges all individuals who provided support and assistance during the course of their study. It is recommended that the student begin by thanking the members of the supervisory committee, followed by appreciation for colleagues or any other parties who contributed or cooperated in the research process, as illustrated in the example below.



شكر وتقدير

الحمد لله أولاً وآخرًا، والشكر العظيم لله تعالى، الذي هَيَّأ لي الظروف، وأحاطني بعنايته ولطفه، ويسَّر لي سبل العلم، ووفَّقني لبلوغ حلم دراسة، والحمد لله على ما أتمَّ وأنعم من إنجاز لهذا العمل، والذي أرجو أن يضيف لبنة جديدة في البحث العلمي، فله الحمد والشكر، كما ينبغي لجلال وجهه، وعظيم سلطانه.

كما أتوجَّه بخالص الشكر والتقدير لمُشرفي الأكاديمي، الفاضل الدكتور، الذي كان لي عونًا بعد الله، وذلَّل لي الصعوبات، ووَجَّهني بعلمه وصبره ودعمه المتواصل، فله مَنِّي أصدق الدعوات، وأطيب الامتنان.

كما لا يفوتني أن أعبر عن تقديري العميق لأعضاء الهيئة التدريسية كافة، ولأعضاء لجنة مناقشة الرسالة، ولجميع محكمي أداة الرسالة، الذين كانت بصماتهم حاضرة في كل مرحلة من مراحل هذه الرحلة العلمية.

وأخيرًا، أقدم الشكر والتقدير إلى كل من أسهم في إنجاز هذه الرسالة، وشجَّعني ووقف إلى جانبي.

جزى الله الجميع خير الجزاء، ووفقنا جميعًا لما فيه الخير والفلاح.

الباحث/.....

7. Supervisory Committee Page

This page shall include the thesis title, the student's name, and their university ID number, and it must match the spelling and formatting of the cover page and the thesis supervisory committee page. It shall list the names of all supervisory committee members along with their academic information, including full name, role (e.g., Principal Supervisor, Co-

Supervisor, Member), academic title, department, affiliated institution, and signature, as illustrated in the example below.



لجنة الإشراف على الأطروحة

Student Name:		اسم الطالب/ة:
Student ID:		رقم الطالب/ة:
PG Pprogram:		التخصص:
Research Title:		عنوان الأطروحة:
The main supervisor:		المشرف الرئيس:
Academic degree:		الدرجة العلمية:
Faculty/University:		الكلية/ الجامعة:
Signature:		التوقيع:
Assistant supervisor:		المشرف المشارك:
Faculty/University:		الكلية/ الجامعة:
Academic degree:		الدرجة العلمية:
Signature:		التوقيع:

Approved:

يعتمد:

Programme Coordinator		منسق البرنامج
Faculty Dean		عميد الكلية
PGC Dean		عميد مركز الدراسات العليا

8. Thesis Defense Committee Page

This page is very similar to the Supervisory Committee Page, but it pertains to the thesis defense committee. The thesis title, student name, and university ID number are omitted, while the same formatting and design of the page are maintained. It shall list the names of all committee members, including the Chairperson, External Examiner, Internal Examiner (1), and Internal Examiner (2).

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Postgraduate centre

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Sohar University

تقرير لجنة مناقشة الأطروحة Viva Thesis Final Report

Date of Viva
Thesis Title

تاريخ المداخلة
عنوان الرسالة

Student Name
Student ID

اسم الطالب/الطالبة
الرقم الجامعي

The committee discussion

نتيجة اجتماع اللجنة:

Pass.		ناجح
Pass with minor corrections.		ناجح مع بعض التعديلات
Pass with major corrections.		ناجح مع تعديلات أساسية
Fail.		راسب

Committee members:

اعضاء اللجنة :

Panel Chair		رئيس اللجنة:
External Examiner		الممتحن الخارجي
Internal Examiner (1)		الممتحن الداخلي (1)
Internal Examiner (2)		الممتحن الداخلي (2)

Note:

To be filled by Panel Chair

ملاحظة:

تعبئ من قبل رئيس الجلسة

9. Thesis Approval Page

The Thesis Approval Page is an essential page in a doctoral thesis and is placed immediately after the defense committee page. Its purpose is to officially document the approval of the student's thesis by the defense committee after all degree requirements have been completed. The page shall include the signatures of both the Dean of Graduate Studies and the Dean of the relevant college, along with the student's name, thesis title, and date of approval. This page must be prepared according to the official university template and written accurately, free of any linguistic or formatting errors.


جامعة صحر
Sohar University

إجازة أطروحة الدكتوراة

يعتمد مركز الدراسات العليا وكلية التربية والآداب أن لجنة المناقشة قد قرّرت في جلستها المنعقدة بتاريخ: هجرية، الموافق: ميلادية، إجازة
الأطروحة العلمية المقدمة من الطالب /ة: والتي جاءت بعنوان :
.....
.....
..... وذلك استيفاء لمتطلبات الحصول على درجة الدكتوراة في التربية، في تخصص
.....

عميد كلية التربية والآداب الدكتور/ التوقيع الختم الرسمي	عميد مركز الدراسات العليا الدكتور/ التوقيع الختم الرسمي
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10. Arabic Abstract

The abstract shall be written on one page only and is considered one of the most important parts of the thesis. The page consists of three main elements:

1. Thesis Title: written at the center of the page in bold black font, size 16 pt.
2. Student's Name: placed below the title using the same font as the thesis, size 14 pt.
3. The word "Abstract": centered on the page in bold font.
4. Abstract Text: written in 14 pt font, with a clear and consistent style.

The abstract typically consists of five short paragraphs, covering: a brief introduction to the study topic and the reasons for choosing it, the study objectives, the research methodology and data collection tools, the main results obtained by the study, and the key recommendations or suggestions.

The abstract should be free of figures, tables, or references, and its language should be clear, coherent, and concise without excessive detail.

11. English Abstract

The abstract shall be written in English on one page only and must include the same four elements present in the Arabic abstract, with the following considerations: the title font size shall be 16 pt, while the rest of the text shall follow the standard font size used in the thesis. The abstract must be an accurate translation of the Arabic abstract, without additions or omissions, and should use formal, clear, and scientific language. The purpose of this abstract is to provide a concise and comprehensive overview of the thesis content, including the study objectives, methodology, main findings, and final recommendations.

12. Table of Contents

The table of contents lists the main headings of the thesis along with their corresponding page numbers, allowing the reader to access topics quickly and accurately. The table of contents should be organized and clear, showing the different levels of main and subheadings. It can be prepared automatically using the numbering and formatting tools in Microsoft Word.

13. List of Tables

Includes all tables presented in the thesis, with table numbers, titles, and page numbers.

14. List of Figures

Includes all figures, illustrations, and charts presented in the thesis, with figure numbers, titles, and page numbers.

15. List of Symbols and Abbreviations (if applicable)

Used to explain scientific symbols and abbreviations, listing each abbreviation along with its full meaning.