BOSTON UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Thesis

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**CAPITAL LETTERS BOLD AND CENTERED**

by

**YOUR NAME IN ALL CAPITALS BOLD AND CENTERED**

B.A., University of Jupiter, 2000

Submitted in partial fulfillment of the

requirements for the degree of

Master of Science

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# DEDICATION

I would like to dedicate this work to my patient spouse Landry, my wonderful children Charlie and Phoenix, and my dog Armani.

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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Sometimes, a thesis or thesis will have an acknowledgments page. Here's where you thank the people who helped you write this work. Your advisor and committee, archivists and librarians, your best friends, your spouse, your study buddy.

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# ABSTRACT

The body of the abstract begins here and is typed double spaced. A Master’s thesis abstract is limited to 750 words or maximum 3 pages.

The abstract should provide a summary of the focus of the thesis including an introduction including relevance, brief background, a presentation of the published literature or your research methods & data collected and end with your conclusions.

**PAGE NUMBERS:** **There should be no page number on your Title page**

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# LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADA American Dental Association

BU Boston University

OHS Oral Health Sciences

THESE ABBREVIATIONS SHOULD BE IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER.

**PAGE NUMBERS AND FORMATTING:** Be careful not to delete section break at bottom on this page since it is critical to keep your page number correct as you switch to the main body of the document.

Use the  to see formatting details.

# INTRODUCTION

**INTRODUCTION:** Introduction includes brief background of the topic chosen, relevance and chosen focus of the paper. This is usually 1-3 pages.

**PAGE NUMBERS:** This should be your first numbered page and start at #1 . They can be to the right or centered at the bottom of each page OR on the right top of page.

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# LITERATURE REVIEW

**LITERATURE REVIEW:** This should provide sufficient background for the reader to understand the importance of your Thesis. This section should contain figures and/or tables as appropriate, which should be accompanied by legends that you write yourself.

This section is commonly 10-15 pages, double-spaced and should contain a significant number of references.

**STYLES:** The style of headings within your capstone can be your choice (e.g. upper case or centered) but must be 12 point. Subheadingsif used, can be your choice as well (e.g. italicized, lowercase, underlined, but must be consistent)

**REFERENCES**: Every statement that is based on somebody else’s work – with the exemption of common knowledge – needs to be referenced! Really, you need to put in these citations! Each time! It’s okay to cite the same source multiple times.

For the in-text citations in the main text, follow these examples

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**QUOTES:** There are no quotes in scientific writing. You really need to rewrite everything in your own words and be concise rather than saying “A study by Smith and his colleagues published in the Journal of Dental Research in England in 2019 showed …. You can just say Smith et al (2019) reported.. and rewrite the findings in your words succinctly and factually.

**FIGURES/TABLES:** All figures and tables should be referred to in the text prior to appearing in the paper. The figure/table should appear following the paragraph where they are discussed. Each figure/table must have a title, descriptive legend and a citation. Figure legends go BELOW the figure, Table legends go ABOVE the table. Legends should be single spaced.

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# SPECIFIC AIMS / OBJECTIVES

**SPECIFIC AIMS**: The aims provide a brief statement of the objectives of the thesis including a justification of need (first) and what you hope to learn (at the end). This section is generally 1 page (or 2) and sets the scene for the published studies or the methods/results section.

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# METHODS (research-based)/PUBLISHED STUDIES (lit-based)

**LITERATURE-BASED THESIS:** The Published Studies section includes a detailed presentation of the topic you chose using primary papers and published data available. Use sub-headings where appropriate, figures and citations should be included. This should not discuss the results, but rather present the findings. This should be 10-20 pages.

**RESEARCH-BASED THESIS:** This section would include the Methods describing what you did, human subjects, materials used, surveys, experimental design and statistical analysis of data. Methods are generally 3-5 pages. Results include a presentation of the findings with text and figures/tables. No interpretation should be included here. Results are generally 5-8 pages depending on the amount of data collected.

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# RESULTS (NOT NEEDED IF LITERATURE BASED)

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# DISCUSSION

**DISCUSSION**: This section should include your evaluation of the studies described in the Literature Review section. This section should not just be a summary of the previous section. Instead, you should discuss strengths and weaknesses in study design and scope, your evaluation of the author’s interpretation of their results, arising or remaining questions in the field, future directions, how your study contributes to the greater body of knowledge in the field and future directions. This section is commonly 3-6 pages long, double-spaced and can contain additional (new) references.

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# APPENDIX (Often not needed, only research)

*[This is where your appendix goes. You can have as many appendices as you wish. If you have additional appendices, insert a Section Break (Next Page) between them and apply the Heading 1 style to the heading of each appendix. Don’t forget to update the Table of Contents.]*

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# LIST OF JOURNAL ABBREVIATIONS

(This page is optional and should only be used if you abbreviate journal names in your references, it should be alphabetized. Below are some commonly, and often incorrectly, used, journals and their correct full titles.)

BMJ BMJ: British Medical Journal

Curr Opin Cell Biol Current Opinion in Cell Biology

EMBO J EMBO Journal

FASEB J FASEB Journal

FEBS Lett FEBS Letters

JAMA JAMA: The Journal of the American Medical Association

Mol Cell Biol Molecular and Cellular Biology

Nat Rev Immunol Nature Reviews. Immunology

NEJM New England Journal of Medicine

PNAS Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America

**REFERENCES:** This list should contain all references in alphabetical order. For each reference, provide the complete author list, publication year, title, source and page numbers. If you viewed it online you should include the URL, doi….

The references should be single spaced with a double space between each. I have indicated several different types of citations.

The biggest error made is listing the title of a web article and not the name of the website as the author when there are no authors (the last example). For this one you would write ADEA, n.d. in the text following the statement where you discussed this paper not the title (“My View: What Can We Do for Dental Education?”)

# REFERENCES

**REGULAR CITATION** but could add URL access of doi for easier access

Gulp, P. (2017) Dental floss in primary care. Journal of Biological Chemistry 9:45-48.

**REGULAR CITATION but includes doi for easy electronic access**

Nicholson S, Vujicic M, Wanchek M, Ziebert A and Menezes A. (2015) The Effect of Education Debt on Dentists’ Career Decisions. The Journal of the American Dental Association 146, no. 11: 800–807. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.adaj.2015.05.015>.

**CITATION FOR AN ARTICLE OBTAINED FROM A WEBSITE WITH AUTHORS (date included)**

Gupta N, Yarbrough C, Vujicic M, Blatz A, Harrison B. (2017). Medicaid fee-for-service reimbursement rates for child and adult dental care services for all states, 2016. Health Policy Institute Research Brief. American Dental Association. Available from: <http://www.ada.org/~/media/ADA/Science%20and%20Research/HPI/Files/HPIBrief_0417_1.pdf>

**CITATION FROM A WEBSITE BUT WITHOUT AUTHORS (or specific date)**

American Dental Education Association (n.d.) My View: What Can We Do for Dental Education?” Accessed April 17, 2020 from <https://www.aa.org/en/publications/ada-news/viewpoint/my-view/2019/june/what-can-we-do-for-dental-education>

# CURRICULUM VITAE / VITA

*[This is where your CV goes. You may place a Vita here instead, and change the heading. If you do a Vita, it should be a third-person narrative; change the paragraph spacing to double. This section must include you year of birth (not full birthday), contact information and education. Name must match your name on the title and abstract page exactly].*

**VITA:** Make sure your name matches exactly the same name as on the title, copyright and abstract page. It should be centered on the top, BOLD and UPPERCASE.

Make sure you include your email but no other contact information.

Generally, includes a section for the following however you want to break it down

Education:

* Undergrad – name, degree, years, major
* Grad - Boston University, MS in OHS, Candidate 202# (or Expected 202#)

Experiences (Service, Research, Volunteering, etc.)

Employment

It should be 3 pages maximum and be double spaced and fit within the margins of the thesis format