

Practical Dissertations	Theoretical Dissertations
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Title page</u> The title of your dissertation and the author - you!</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Abstract (see below for more details)</u> A summary of your dissertation.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Table of contents</u> Setting up your table of contents at the start will make your life a lot easier.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Acknowledgements</u> Thank the people who helped you with your dissertation.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Introduction (see below for more details)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical writing. (see below) • Go from general to specific. Start with the general theme and move towards focusing on your topic. • Depending on your discipline, the literature review might be included in the introduction. • 10% of your word count. 	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Literature review (see below for more details)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical writing. (see below) • Show how your work fits within the context of others' work. Select and comment on the relevant literature. • This is a substantial section of your dissertation – around 25 to 30% of your word count. 	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Methods and Methodology</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Descriptive writing. (see below) • Describe the procedure for your investigation. For qualitative methods, you'll need to explain your methodology, and justify why you chose it. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Chapters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical writing. (see below) • The main body of your dissertation will probably have about 3 chapters, with each one discussing a different point of your argument. • Treat each chapter like a mini-essay. In the chapter introduction, explain what you're going to cover and its importance to your overall question. Summarise in the chapter conclusion.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Results</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Descriptive writing. (see below) • Quantitative study - graphs, charts, tables. • Qualitative study - descriptions of interviews, useful quotes. • Highlight the points of interest 	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical writing (see below). • Interpret the findings and relate them to the aim of your investigation. It is important to relate them to the wider literature in your literature review. Discuss any limitations of your methods or findings. • This is a substantial section of your dissertation, like the literature review - about 30%. 	

Conclusion

- Critical writing. (see below)
- Refer back to your questions at the start and summarise your findings or overall argument.
- Discuss the implications of your findings.
- Limitations of your research
- Implications of your findings
- Recommendations for further work or actions to take
- 10% of word count

Appendices

Include any raw data, interview transcripts, artifacts etc. in consultation with your tutor.

Bibliography

All the sources you used in the correct referencing style for your discipline.

Source: Sections based on Trevor Day (2018) Success in Academic Writing, 2nd ed. Palgrave, pp.109–110