

Acknowledgment of Previous Publications

Guidelines for Theses and Dissertations

It is a universal tenet in publishing that previously published work, or work pending publication elsewhere, be acknowledged. Academic fields vary in the degree to which they countenance re-use of material that has also appeared, or will appear, elsewhere. In those fields in which such practices are accepted the following guidelines should be adhered to:

Without exception, previous and pending publications must be acknowledged in the thesis or dissertation. There are several ways in which this may be done.

If a thesis or dissertation is composed in part or in full of whole chapters or independent articles or reports already published, the preface or acknowledgments page must indicate this and give citations to the earlier publications. Even if the portions of previous publications are more partial, such acknowledgment in the front matter is recommended.

It is presumed that the previously published material used in the thesis or dissertation represents the original work of the student. In the event that that is not the case, it has no place in the thesis or dissertation. In those fields in which the student typically works alone on the research and writing of the thesis or dissertation, it is expected that the writing will be his or her own. In those fields in which it is conventionally the case that work is done in close collaboration with others this may not be the case, but material written by others as part of a joint project should be referenced as such. In the case of co-authored material, comparable acknowledgment must be supplemented by a clear indication of the contribution of the author of the thesis or dissertation. In all cases, the major substance of the thesis or dissertation must be the original work of the student submitting it.

In the case of shorter passages written by others, they may be quoted with proper attribution and any necessary permissions.