Title of Dissertation

by

Your Name

A Dissertation

Submitted to the

Graduate Faculty

of

George Mason University

in Partial Fulfillment of

The Requirements for the Degree

of

Doctor of Philosophy

Education

Committee:

Chair

Program Director

Date: Season Semester Year  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, VA

Title of Dissertation

A Dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at George Mason University

by

Your Name

Master of Science

Syracuse University, 2010  
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Director: Full Name, Professor  
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Season Semester Year  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, VA

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Dedication

The dedication is an optional page that provides you with the opportunity to dedicate this dissertation to an individual or group This is dedicated to some people I really appreciate and find inspiring.

Acknowledgements

The acknowledgements page is optional and gives you the opportunity to thank those who have provided help in varied ways throughout the research and writing of the dissertation. In general, the chair and committee are acknowledged, funders and research assistants are thanked, and friends, family and key others are noted. I would like to thank the many friends, relatives, and supporters who have made this happen. Drs. Johnson, Hopper, and the other members of my committee were of invaluable help. Finally, thanks go out to the Fenwick Library for providing a clean, quiet, and well-equipped repository in which to work.

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# List of Abbreviations and/or Symbols

Euro €

International Schools Association ISA

Measuring Usability of Systems in Context MUSiC

Pi Π

National Institute for Measurement NIM

# Abstract

Title of Dissertation

Your Name, Ph.D.

George Mason University, 20XX

Dissertation Director: Dr. Full Name

A brief yet comprehensive general abstract for the entire document is required to frame the manuscripts and their related conceptual foundations, methodological stream and/or commonalities in addressing a problem or phenomena. The general abstract will help the reader understand the intent of the broader study(ies), as well as the theoretical frameworks, phenomena and methods. The abstract might also describe the participants or contexts that guide the dissertation and all manuscripts, as well as an overview of the results, findings, conclusions and implications. Each component manuscript also will have an abstract that includes the manuscript-specific problem, methodologies, conclusions, and implications.

# Introduction

This chapter, expanding on the general abstract, should consist of an introduction to the entire dissertation (including the three manuscripts) that clearly establishes the problem or area of focus, a conceptual framework (if applicable), a rationale for each of the three manuscripts (including research questions), and definitions of key terms. This introduction must also frame the three manusripts as sequenced papers.

# Manuscript One

This first manuscript should include the following sections: a brief abstract (specific to this manuscript), introduction, literature review, methods, results, and discussion/conclusions.

## Abstract

The abstract should include a brief introduction to the purpose, conceptual framework (if appropriate), methods, results, discussion and implications of this particular work. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document.

## Section One Level Two Heading

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### Section One Level Three Heading

The reader should note that the heading for level three is bold and italicized using title case.

Section One Level Four Heading. The reader should note that a level four heading is bold, indented and ends with a period since the text starts on the same line.

Section One Level Five Heading. The reader should note that a level five heading is bold and italicized, indented and ends with a period since the text starts on the same line.

## Section Two

The structure of headings in this section is comparable to that outlined above. Tables and figures must be referenced within the text preceding the table or figure. The content would follow as in this example: Past studies examined the relationship between academic achievement and homework using variables such as the amount of homework assigned, time spent on homework, and the amount of homework actually completed (Cooper et al., 1998; Trautwein et al., 2002; Zimmerman & Kitsantas, 2005). Generally, research using these variables remained inconclusive because most studies found that homework is not related with academic achievement in elementary school. However, for the high school student population, some studies did show positive correlations between homework and achievement (Cooper, 2009). For example, Cooper et al. (1998) found that the most potent factor affecting achievement was the amount of homework the student actually completed as opposed to the amount of homework that was assigned. Although this pattern was consistent across most students, the proportion of homework completed was found to especially impact the academic achievement of upper elementary and high school students as opposed to younger elementary school students (Table 1).

**Table 1**

Table of Important Information about Teachers

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Teacher | # Years Teaching | Subject Taught | | Grade Level |
| A | 10 | | Spanish | High School |
| B | 12 | | English | High School |
| C | 11 | | Mathematics | High School |
| D | 10 | | Biology | High School |
| E | 13 | | History | Middle School |
| F | 12 | | Mathematics | Middle School |
| G | 11 | | English | Middle School |
| H | 12 | | History | Middle School |

A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear here. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. There should be content here in which a description of the model (Figure 1) is included.

TBTDI

PER

Math

Literacy

TBFA

MA S-E

ES

TBSO

Note: ES = environmental structuring; MA S-E = mathematics self-efficacy; PER = perseverance; TBFA = teacher behavior formative instruction; TBSO = teacher behavior student orientation; TBTDI = teacher behavior teacher directive instruction.

**Figure 1.**

Figure with the caption below as required by the university.

While APA 7th requires figure captions to go above the figure, the Mason University Thesis and Dissertation Service requires figure captions to go below the the figure. Please follow UTDS guidance.

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# Appendices for First Manucript

Material goes here

# References for First Manuscript

Material goes here

# Manuscript Two

This should be Manuscript 2. It should include the following sections: introduction, literature review, methods, results, and discussion/conclusions.

## Abstract for Second Manuscript

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A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document.

Then there is something profound about Ajax the bull (Figure 2).



**Figure 2.**

Ajax, a bull.

You'll notice that in this picture of the bull, the caption is below the picture. This is different than in the APA 7th guidelines, in compliance with Mason UTDS. A bunch of text that says something deep and profound will soon appear in this chapter. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document. A bunch of text that says something profound will soon appear in this document.

# Appendices for Second Manuscript

Material goes here

# References for Second Manuscript

Material goes here

# Manuscript Three

This should be Manuscript 3. It should include the following sections: introduction, literature review, methods, results, and discussion/conclusions.

## Abstract for Third Manuscript

Regular text begins here.

# Appendices for Third Manuscript

Material goes here

# References for Third Manuscript

Material begins here

# Chapter 5

The final chapter comprises a thoughtful discussion of how the **collective** findings from the three manuscripts (chapters 2-4) contribute to the existing research, limitations, implications for further research and practice.

# Optional General Appendices

Appendix Title Here

# Optional General References

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Biography

Your Name received her Bachelor of Arts in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_from George Mason University in 1999. She was employed as a teacher in Fairfax County and received her Master of Arts in English from George Mason University in 2005.