

# Research Dissertation

A fairly typical structure is as follows:

<b>Title page</b>	Check your guidance but this may include your title, course and name.
<b>Contents page</b>	You can use the facility in Word to create this for you <a href="#">Insert contents</a> . You need to use the <a href="#">Headings</a> in word to make this work. You should also include a separate list of figures/tables.
<b>Abstract</b>	A summary of your research giving a brief overview of the topic, methodology, results and conclusion.
<b>Introduction</b>	Sets the context that justifies your research topic (why is it important?) and identifies your key research question (Aim). This may then be broken down into specific objectives with an indication of how these will be addressed (your methodological approach). How might your research be used?
<b>Literature review</b>	Outline your search strategy and give a “critical” overview of the current key literature around your topic, identifying the significant studies and their findings. It should give any contrasting views and identify any gaps in the literature. It situates you in the chain of research and may also support your choice of methodology. See our <a href="#">Literature review page</a> for more detail.
<b>Methodology</b>	Justifies your approach (methodology) and sets out how you carried out the research (Methods). Think of it as a recipe that someone could follow. Have you used quantitative, qualitative or mixed methods? What were they and why were they appropriate? How did you recruit? What were the ethical considerations? How did you analyse the data?
<b>Results</b>	This is where you present your findings How many participants? Any relevant demographic information. The results of interviews or surveys, which could be presented as emerging themes. Quantitative results could be presented as tables and <a href="#">graphs/charts</a> . What is it that you found out?
<b>Discussion</b>	What do your findings mean? How do they answer your research question? How do they compare to other research? Can you explain your findings and identify the significance of what you found? Identify any limitations in the research.
<b>Conclusion</b>	What is the answer to your research question and how does the data support it? Why are your findings significant and what are the implications for further research?
<b>Recommendations</b>	Where required by your assignment guidance.
<b>Reference list/ bibliography</b>	Most undergrad research requires a reference list – the sources cited. Postgrad research may require a fuller bibliography of all sources consulted.
<b>Appendices</b>	Only if necessary, they shouldn't be used as a way to get around the word count. Include any extra information that might be useful for the reader, such as the questionnaires used, literature search strategy or full data results.