

## Manuscript Style Dissertation Guidelines

<b>From the UConn School of Nursing Graduate Student Handbook:</b>		
<p>The manuscript style dissertation includes 5 chapters with the same first (introduction) and last (discussion/application) chapters as the traditional dissertation format. The other three chapters consist of manuscripts that have been or will be submitted for publication. The student and the advisory committee will determine the contents of the three papers. Suggestions for dissertation manuscripts include, but are not limited to: one or more research reports, an integrative or systematic review/synthesis paper, a methods paper and a clinical application paper. Authorship of these papers is determined by the MA, and committee members with the student. The student is most often the first author but does not necessarily need to be the first author of all three of these papers. Authorship should be determined using the International COPE authorship guidelines and does not necessarily include the whole dissertation committee or readers but should be determined by the true work of each of the named authors. Authorship can also include those that are not members of the committee or are not readers; as appropriate given the work toward the manuscript completion. If the manuscript is already published at the time of the defense the student will need to request copyright to include the work(s) in the dissertation. For each journal this process could be different. It is advisable that the student begin the process of obtaining copyright transfer early in the final dissertation process.</p>		
<p><b>Suggested Chapter Outline Manuscript Dissertation: (please discuss with your major advisor/chair and associate advisors (committee members) early in the dissertation process.)</b></p>		
<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Suggested Contents:</b>	<b>completed</b>
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of your research question and the need for your research study; this chapter is like a larger more in depth writing of the purpose and specific aims of your study. What is the gap that your question will fill?</li> <li>• Introduce the supporting concepts that are the foundation for your research study.</li> <li>• This chapter must also tie your three papers together so plan that there will be a section about each paper and a conclusion section that leads into the following three chapters.</li> <li>• Length of this chapter is often 6-10 pages of text plus references.</li> </ul>	
2 & 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contents of chapter's 2 and 3 must be previously agreed upon with your committee. Whenever possible, have this discussion early so you can get these chapters submitted to your committee well before chapter 4 and/or completion of your dissertation.</li> <li>• These two chapters can be in a number of different formats including but not limited to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ one or more research reports of other studies (manuscript), contributing to dissertation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ integrative or systematic review/ meta-synthesis manuscript</li> <li>○ methods manuscript</li> <li>○ clinical application manuscript</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Both of these manuscripts must be of publication quality and ready for submission for publication or have already been published by the time of the dissertation defense.</li> <li>● Each of these manuscripts can be formatted in the style of the journal for which you plan to submit the manuscript – please discuss format with your committee.</li> <li>● If a manuscript for chapters 2 or 3 is already published at the time of the defense the student will need to request copyright to include the work(s) in the dissertation. For each journal this process could be different. It is advisable that the student begin the process of obtaining copyright transfer early in the final dissertation process.</li> </ul>	
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This chapter is the publication of the results of your dissertation study.</li> <li>● Must be a research manuscript of publication quality, ready for submission after the dissertation defense.</li> <li>● Can be formatted in the style of the journal for which you plan to submit the paper – please discuss format with your committee.</li> </ul>	
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● This chapter must again tie your three papers together so first provide an overview then there will be a section about each paper that provides a summary of the conclusions of each chapter.</li> <li>● Include recommends implications for practice and/or policy.</li> <li>● Include implications for research – although you might do some of this within each of the proceeding chapters this is a place to provide a more in-depth overview of your beginning trajectory of research and how it will contribute to the science what are the next steps.</li> <li>● The conclusion should also speak to the impact of this trajectory of research.</li> <li>● Overall limitations about research in this area should also be discussed, with recommendations to overcome these challenges in future studies.</li> <li>● Length is often 6-10 pages of text plus references</li> </ul>	