# PhD Guidelines for the thesis part at KBM

The “[Regulations for the degree of Philosophiae Doctor (PhD) at the Norwegian University of Life Sciences](https://www.nmbu.no/download/file/fid/29209)” describes the requirements for the introductory chapter of the PhD thesis:

**§ 10 Krav til den vitenskapelige avhandlingen setter inn engelsk oversettelse når den foreligger**

(3) Avhandlingen kan bestå av en monografi eller en sammenstilling av flere vitenskapelige arbeider (artikler). Dersom avhandlingen består av flere vitenskapelige arbeider, skal det gjøres rede for sammenhengen mellom dem i et innledningskapittel («kappe»), der ph.d.-kandidaten er eneforfatter. Innledningskapittelet skal i et helhetlig perspektiv, sammenfatte og sammenstille de problemstillingene og konklusjonene som legges fram i de vitenskapelige arbeidene.

(7) Avhandlingen skal skrives på engelsk eller på norsk. I begge tilfeller skal avhandlingen skal inneholde ett kort sammendrag på engelsk og ett kort sammendrag på norsk.

The introductory part of your thesis should reflect the knowledge You have gained through Your PhD studies and should demonstrate your maturity as a research scientist. Therefore, you should have great freedom to design the outline and content of the introductory part. You are advised to look at some previous thesis’s by colleagues within your field, and you will discover that there are several possible ways to organize this chapter. Different outlines are given on the next page but FIND YOUR WAY! Ph.d theses from NMBU may be found at [BRAGE](https://nmbu.brage.unit.no/nmbu-xmlui/handle/11250/92927/browse?type=type&value=Doctoral+thesis), from [NTNU](https://ntnuopen.ntnu.no/ntnu-xmlui/handle/11250/223328/browse?type=type&value=Doctoral+thesis), from [UiO](https://www.duo.uio.no/discover?filtertype=type&filter_relational_operator=equals&filter=Doktoravhandling) and from [Denmark](https://soeg.kb.dk/discovery/search?query=any,contains,phd%20thesis&tab=Everything&search_scope=MyInst_and_CI&vid=45KBDK_KGL:KGL&lang=da&offset=0)

Remember that the thesis part should be Your work, and it should be written by you. The supervisors are not supposed to contribute with writing of the thesis; however, you should discuss the outline with them, and the supervisors are required to read through your introduction and give feedback on possible improvements before you finalize your thesis. But remember that You are the responsible author.

**What does the evaluation committee look for?**

* The quality of the scientific content.
* A clear hypothesis and objective of the thesis
* A good background for your research – why is your thesis important, and for whom.
* That your results are clearly described and discussed and how the results answer Your hypothesis and objectives.
* That you manage to make an integrated analysis of all your results (from all papers).
* They may object if the introduction is too short or too narrow in scope.
* If your scientific work and papers are close to the lower limit of requirements for a PhD thesis, the introduction should be more comprehensive.
* Good English language and lack spelling errors, correct references, correct numbering of figures and tables, (avoid general sloppiness).

Different proposals for the outline of the thesis. DO FIND YOUR OWN PATH!

Abstract

Preface

Contents

1. Introduction.
2. Knowledge gaps and hypotheses.
3. Aims of the thesis
4. Summary of papers: May be discussed together or individually
5. Discussion: May be divided in:
   1. Method discussion
   2. General discussion
6. Concluding remarks
7. Future perspectives
8. References
9. Papers

Abstract

Preface

Contents

1. List of publications
2. List of abbreviations
3. Literature review - Discussion of the papers in context of the relevant findings in the field
4. Conclusions and further perspectives
5. References
6. Papers

Abstract

Preface

List of publications

Contents

1. Introduction
2. Background and review
3. Summaries of the papers
4. Discussion and conclusion
5. References
6. Papers

Table of Contents

Summary

1. List of publications
2. List of abbreviations
3. Aims of study
4. Background, main results and discussion
5. Acknowledgements
6. References
7. Papers

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements

Summary

1. List of publications
2. List of abbreviations
3. Background and review
4. Aims of study
5. Main results and discussion
6. Main conclusions and future perspectives
7. References
8. Papers

Contents

Acknowledgements

List of papers

Abstract

1. Introduction.
2. Aims of study
3. Study design, methods and subjects.
4. Summary of results
5. General discussion
6. Conclusions
7. References
8. Papers

Table of Contents

1. Acknowledgements
2. Summary
3. List of papers
4. Introduction
5. Objectives
6. Summary of papers
7. Background, main results and discussion
8. Conclusions
9. Future perspectives
10. References
11. Appendices
12. Papers