

Dental Student Honors Thesis

Purpose

This is meant for D4 students graduating this academic year. This enables an 'Honors' designation on your dental diploma. It recognizes a body of research performed as a dental student at UB SDM. The process involves writing a thesis and a public defense (presentation). All information and forms are available on the UB SDM Student Research website: <https://dental.buffalo.edu/research/for-students/thesis-guidelines.html>.

Process

1. Declare your interest in pursuing an honors thesis with a '**Letter of Intent.**' This must include the title of your thesis, the name and signature of your primary advisor/mentor, and the name and signature of one committee member who will serve as an external reader. This form must be countersigned by one of the Co-Chairs, Student Research and Honors Committee (SRHC), and submitted to Dr. Lindsay Chakan, Director of the Office of Research Support (lindsay@buffalo.edu).
2. Work with your advisor and prepare the thesis document (instructions below).
3. Submit the final draft version to your committee member(s) who will review and provide comments/suggestions.
4. The mentor and committee member(s) must inform the Co-Chairs, SRHC, of their approval of the draft thesis.
5. The SRHC Co-Chairs will then inform the student to coordinate a date-time for the public defense.
6. The public defense is a brief presentation (30-45min), which includes addressing feedback or suggestions by the reader(s).
7. A final copy of the thesis must be sent to the SRHC Co-Chairs and the Director of the Office of Research Support along with a '**Thesis Defense Form**' which must be signed by the primary advisor/mentor, committee member(s), and one of the SRHC Co-Chairs.
8. The SRHC Co-Chairs will then inform the SDM Registrar of a successful defense (Cc: student, mentor, ADR).

Timeline: For D4 students graduating in May of that academic year

Date / Period	Activity	Responsible party	Contact
February 14 th	Letter of intent	Student	Signatures: Advisor, Reader, SRHC Co-Chair Email: Director Office of Research Support (Cc: Advisor, SRHC Co-Chairs, ADR)
March 13 th	Approved thesis draft	Mentor and Reader	Email: Co-Chairs SRHC
March 13 th –April 5 th	Public defense	Student and Mentor	Email announcement sent by: Co-Chairs SRHC
April 12 th	Submission of final thesis document and Thesis Defense Form	Student	Email: Director Office of Research Support (Cc: Co-Chairs SRHC, Advisor, ADR)

Thesis

- This should follow a standard scientific thesis as per University at Buffalo Graduate thesis guidelines. <https://grad.buffalo.edu/succeed/graduate/electronic-submission.html>
- There are no minimum / maximum page limit requirements. Prior thesis have been about 40 to 60 pages.
- All thesis must be written in block font (Arial or Times) at least 11 pt in size, with 1-inch margins, and at least 1.5 line spacing. All pages, except the first, should be numbered at the bottom right.
- Each thesis must have these sections: **Title page** (with a formal thesis statement), **Attributions / Acknowledgements**, **List of Contents**, **Introduction / Background**, **Hypothesis**, **Materials and Methods**, **Results**, **Discussion**, **Future Impact**, and **References**. Any reference format is permissible, we recommend using APA or Cell (journal). We **strongly** encourage using the **Endnote** software program available free from UB IT here: <https://www.buffalo.edu/ubit/service-guides/software/by-title/endnote.html>.

Public Defense

A PowerPoint presentation with the same sections as the thesis should be prepared. These will usually include introduction, motivation / gap in knowledge / unmet need, hypothesis, materials and methods, results, conclusions and future impact / significance.

Key Contacts

Dr. Camila Sabatini, Co-Chair, SRHC, cs252@buffalo.edu

Dr. Ding Xu, Co-Chair, SRHC, dingxu@buffalo.edu

Dr. Keith Kirkwood, Senior Associate Dean for Research, kkirk@buffalo.edu

Dr. Lindsay Chakan, Director, Office of Research Support, lindsay@buffalo.edu

HONORS THESIS INTENT FORM

Students who have participated in clinical or basic science research are eligible for graduation with *Thesis Honors*. This achievement is designated on the diploma and is recognized at the graduation ceremonies. Briefly, the requirements for Thesis Honors include compiling results or manuscript(s) into a short thesis that is orally defended to a faculty committee.

All students who have participated in research activities are encouraged to pursue thesis development, which can include registration for “Thesis Guidance” with their mentor during the spring semester before graduation. Please complete this form and submit as indicated below.

Guidelines for the thesis content are available at:
<https://dental.buffalo.edu/research/for-students/thesis-guidelines.html>.

Please contact the Student Research and Honors Committee for further details.

Student Name: _____ **Signature:** _____

Tentative Thesis Title: _____

Committee Members:

_____	_____	_____
Primary Advisor Name	Signature	Date

_____	_____	_____
Committee Member Name	Signature	Date

_____	_____	_____
Chair , Student Research and Honors Committee	Signature	Date

Scan the signed document and email to:

Dr. Lindsay Chakan, Director, SDM Office of Research Support, lindsayy@buffalo.edu

CC:

Your Primary Advisor

Dr. Keith Kirkwood, Senior Associate Dean for Research, klkirk@buffalo.edu

Dr. Camila Sabatini, Co-Chair, SRHC, cs252@buffalo.edu

Dr. Ding Xu, Co-Chair, SRHC, dingxu@buffalo.edu

**UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO
SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE
THESIS HONORS FORM**

1. THESIS DEFENSE

We certify that on _____
Date Name of Student

successfully defended (his/her) Honor's Thesis entitled _____

Major Advisor name signature date

Committee Member name signature date

Committee Member name signature date

Committee Member name signature date

2. STUDENT ATTESTATION OF THESIS ORIGINALITY AND INTEGRITY: With my signature below, I attest to the originality and integrity of the Honors Thesis that I have submitted to my advisor(s) and committee for final review and approval. All work therein is original or properly attributed and cited.

Student name signature date

3. FACULTY ACCEPTANCE OF FINAL THESIS DOCUMENT: On (date) _____, I received the above-named student's FINAL THESIS. I certify that this document, including revisions since its defense, has been fully examined and approved by myself. I deem it acceptable for final submission to the School of Dental Medicine, in fulfillment of the requirements for the distinction of Graduation with Honors.

Major Advisor name signature date

Chair, Research and Honors name signature date

RETURN SIGNED FORM TO Dr. Lindsay Chakan, Director, Office of Research Support,
327B SQUIRE, lindsay@buffalo.edu

TITLE

By XXXXXX

A Thesis Submitted to School of Dental Medicine University at Buffalo

in Partial Fulfillment of the Honors Requirements

Month, Year