

SDSU EdD and DrPh Dissertation Formatting Guidelines

1. Your name, committee members and degree title must match University records.
2. Follow the current APA formatting style guide (7th ed.).
3. Set your margins at 1.25 inches for the left margin, and 1 inch on the right, top, and bottom margins. Margins may be reduced to .875 inches all around to accommodate oversized tables or figures.
4. Use a professional font in 12pt size. Do not use an ornamental font based on script, cursive, or calligraphic styles. For tables, footnotes, or other material outside of the main text, a font size as low as 8pts may be used. Use black for all text apart from figures, tables, and computer code, which may include color.
5. Line spacing: Double-spaced, with the exception of tables, lists, block quotations, footnotes/endnotes, figure captions, table titles, and bibliographic entries, which are to be single-line spaced.
6. Start the first page of each section (Acknowledgements, Table of Contents, Lists, etc.), chapter, and appendix on a new page and increase the top margin on that page to 2 inches.
7. Place your Reference section(s) at the end of the main document text (but before the Appendices). Use single-line spacing.
8. If including more than one figure, table, or illustration, create a separate list for each type of item, which includes the figure/table number, figure caption/table title and the page number on which it begins.
9. Label tables, figures, illustrations, etc. uniquely and number each consecutively throughout your document.
10. Recommend image resolution: 300 dpi. Supplementary materials such as audio, video, and oversized tables/figures must be submitted to the College of Graduate Studies at the same time the dissertation is submitted.
11. The Table of Contents lists each chapter number, chapter title, and the page on which each chapter begins. Type the word “Chapter” as a heading before listing the numbers and titles of each chapter below. See the template for examples.
12. Preliminary page numbers are lowercase Roman numerals, starting with page iii (preferably centered at the bottom of the page).
13. Preliminary pages appear in the following order (first numbered page must be page iii):

Title page: Mandatory; no page number

Signature page: Mandatory; no page number

Copyright page: Mandatory; numbered iii

Dedication: Optional; must have page number

Abstract: Mandatory; up to 350 words, single-spaced; must have page number

Table of Contents: Mandatory; must have page number

List of Tables, List of Figures, etc.: Mandatory when the document includes more than one table, figure, etc. (e.g., if you have 2 tables, include a List of Tables; 2 figures, include a List of Figures); must have page number

Acknowledgements: Optional; must have page number