
Electronic Thesis & Dissertation Policy

Policy Sponsor:	Faculty of Graduate Studies
Policy Contact:	Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Policy Number:	N/A
Effective Date:	February 2, 2011
Approval Group:	AUAC
Approval Date:	February 2, 2011, Motion # 227-6
Review Date:	Annually
Procedure:	Electronic Thesis & Dissertation Procedures

Purpose

There will be a standard policy and set of procedures for all graduate students to follow for the submission of theses and dissertations to the University Library. The electronic submission will be one of the requirements towards the fulfillment of the degree requiring a thesis or dissertation.

Definitions

Thesis	The term 'thesis' is used collectively to refer to both master's theses and doctoral dissertations.
University Library	Refers to the Athabasca University Library.

Policy Statements

1. The University supports the principle of free access to the results of University research, which includes research conducted by AU students as one of the requirements toward the fulfillment of their degree.
2. Dissemination of research results is a primary function of AU.



3. Electronic submission of all thesis will enable open and free access to AU graduate student research worldwide under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Canada license (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.5/ca/>)
4. The student may choose another license as long as the University Library and Library and Archives Canada (LAC) have permission to store and circulate their copies.
5. Upon final approval of the thesis and fulfillment of all other requirements of the degree, all thesis must be submitted electronically to the University Library.
6. The format of the thesis must comply with the technical requirements of the University Library and LAC as outlined in the *FGS Format of Final Theses and Dissertations*.
7. Students may voluntarily provide a paper copy to the University library if they so wish.
8. The electronic thesis will be publicly available through the AU website and LAC.
9. The student continues to own the copyright for the thesis. Signature of the LAC license makes the thesis available for further research only. Publication for academic and commercial purposes remains the sole right of the author. Agreement for LAC to collect the thesis does not normally preclude further publication of the thesis or any part of it in a journal or book.

Applicable Legislation and Regulations

[Copyright Act](#)

Creative Commons Full License, legal code -

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.5/ca/legalcode.en>

Related References, Policies, Procedures and Forms

[Electronic Thesis & Dissertation Procedures](#)

[AU Open Access to Research Outputs Policy](#)

[AU Publication of Research Policy](#)

[Temporary Restriction of Theses and Dissertations Policy](#)

[Temporary Restriction of Theses and Dissertations Procedures](#)

Library & Archives Canada -- Thesis Canada -

<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/thesescanada/index-e.html>

History

AUAC, February 2, 2011, Motion # 227-6 (approved)