

LIBRARY THESIS GENERAL INFORMATION

For a library thesis - the minimum page requirement is 45 -50 pages. This number does not include the prepages but does include the vita, figures and reference sections. The library thesis should have a novel conclusion. The format generally involves an introduction, presentation of published data, discussion, conclusions, future plans or proposal

Some suggested topics are:

- Write a review paper discussing the advantages and disadvantages of a therapeutic approach and a plan for the future drug development.
- Analyze a topic
 - where the current research field is rapidly changing and involves complex interpretation. Paper would include an overall discussion which summarizes results and proposes additional questions and future directions.
 - where the results contain contradictory and/or inconclusive results and the published data needs to be re-assessed. This often results from uncontrolled studies where the methods of study and the populations evaluated may vary so the results cannot be compared directly. Your novel conclusion would then be to suggest future studies to clarify and to confirm the results.
 - which is currently controversial and you discuss the supporting data for the two theories. Your novel conclusion would be the rationale supporting which theory is accurate and how you might confirm this experimentally. (ex. Amyloid verses Neurofibrillary Tangle hypotheses for Alzheimer's disease)
 - which involves a current problem in the medical field that impacts society as a whole. These may be a comparison of pharmaceutical approaches to the treatment of depression in teens, or the advantages/disadvantages to certain drugs for treatment of cardiovascular disease when other risk factors or medical conditions are present. Even a public health topic like whether to require the HPV vaccine for entry into public schools as we do for Hep B is acceptable. The thesis could discuss not only the medical findings and rationale for its use but also ethical issues.

Any medically relevant topic is acceptable: from disease to treatments, healthcare including its problems, legal or financial issues; gender differences, genetic testing, organ transplants and the selection process, vaccine development, public health issues, vaccinations of young children with autism, genetic alterations of foods, etc.