

THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

GUIDANCE

	Lay Summary in Theses
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Purpose	Guidance on DRPS Regulation 5.8 which requires the inclusion of a lay summary in the thesis.
The Guidance	<p>The thesis must include a lay summary, which is not counted in the word-count (DRPS Regulation 5.8). The lay summary must be no longer than can be accommodated in single-space type on one side only of a single form obtainable from the College Office. Lay summaries should conform to Research Assessment Regulations 3.1.2–3.1.6. In addition, the text of the lay summary should be incorporated at the beginning of each copy of the thesis. Candidates are reminded of the contents of Regulation 2.5.</p> <p>A lay summary is intended to facilitate knowledge exchange, public awareness and outreach. It should be in simple, non-technical terms that are easily understandable by a lay audience, who may be non-professional, non-scientific and outside the research area.</p> <p>Abstracts, particularly in science, engineering, medicine and veterinary medicine, may be highly technical or contain scientific language that is not easily understandable to readers outside the research area. Therefore, the lay summary is intended as supplementary to the abstract.</p> <p>Support and advice on training is available from the Institute for Academic Development.</p>
Keywords	Lay summary, thesis submission

DOCUMENT CONTROL	
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Role responsible for guidance maintenance & review	Academic Policy Manager with responsibility for PGR in Academic Services, Academic Registry
Related policies, procedures guidelines & regulations	DRPS