

# The `brandeis-dissertation` package\*

Brandeis University GSAS  
`gradschool@brandeis.edu`

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## 1 Introduction

This document explains how to use the `brandeis-dissertation` class in  $\LaTeX$  to format your dissertation according to the specifications of Brandeis University's Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

The `brandeis-dissertation` class will do the following for you:

- Create your title, approval, copyright, acknowledgements, and abstract pages.
- Ensure your dissertation has the correct margins, spacing, and pagination.

## 2 Usage

### 2.1 Title Information

The following commands are used to save information that is used to render your title page:

`\title{}`: The title of your dissertation.

`\author{}`: Your name.

`\graduationmonth{}`: The month in which you graduate.

`\graduationyear{}`: The year in which you graduate.

`\program{}`: Your program.

`\advisor{}`: Your advisor's name.

`\signoff{}`: The name of the individual signing off on your approval page, followed by their title. This likely is the dean.

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\*This document corresponds to `brandeis-dissertation v3.11`, dated 2020/04/09.

`\committee{}`: The members of your committee, with each member separated by a double backslash (`\\`).

For example, including the following in your document:

```
\title{LaTeXing Your Dissertation}
\author{Deanna Daly}
\graduationmonth{May}
\graduationyear{2020}
\program{Philosophy}
\advisor{Alan Turing}
\signoff{Eric Chasalow}{Dean}
\committee{Bertrand Russell, Philosophy\\
Alfred North Whitehead, Mathematics\\
Ludwig Wittgenstein, Philosophy\\
Emmy Noether, Mathematics, Bryn Mawr College}
```

would set your dissertation to one with a title of “LaTeXing Your Dissertation”, an author of “Deanna Daly”, a graduation time of May 2020, with the advisor “Alan Turing” in the Philosophy program. Your approval page should be signed off by Eric Chasalow, the dean. Your committee would be set to consist of Bertrand Russell from the Philosophy Department, Alfred North Whitehead from the Mathematics Department, and Ludwig Wittgenstein from the Philosophy Department. Your outside reader would be set to be Emmy Noether from Bryn Mawr College’s Mathematics Department.

## 2.2 Creating Front Matter

The title, approval, and copyright pages of your dissertation can be created with just one line each:

```
\maketitlepage
\makeapproval
\makecopyright
```

The abstract is created with the `dissertation-abstract` environment, as in the following example:

```
\begin{dissertation-abstract}
I present a simple explanation of how to LaTeX your dissertation.
\end{dissertation-abstract}
```

This will create your abstract page, with the abstract being “I present a simple explanation of how to LaTeX your dissertation.” You may optionally use the `dissertation-acknowledgements` environment in the same way, immediately before your abstract.

Table of Contents, List of Figures, etc. can be generated as usual using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X. You should precede these with `\doublespacing` to make them double spaced.

To end the front matter section of your dissertation and begin the body of your dissertation, use the command `\startbody`.

The rest of your dissertation may be written as normal; margins, spacing, and pagination should be set automatically, with the exception of your bibliography. To make your bibliography single spaced, you should precede it with You should precede these with `\singlespacing`.

### 3 Example

The below example provides the source code for a simple dissertation with no figures or citations.

```
\documentclass[red]{brandeis-dissertation}
\usepackage[utf8]{inputenc}

\title{LaTeXing Your Dissertation}
\author{Deanna Daly}
\graduationmonth{May}
\graduationyear{2020}
\program{Philosophy}
\advisor{Alan Turing}
\signoff{Eric Chasalow}{Dean}
\committee{Bertrand Russell, Philosophy\\
Alfred North Whitehead, Mathematics\\
Ludwig Wittgenstein, Philosophy\\
Emmy Noether, Mathematics, Bryn Mawr College}

\begin{document}

\maketitlepage
\makeapproval
\makecopyright

\begin{dissertation-acknowledgements}
Thank you to John Burt for assisting with creating this package.
\end{dissertation-acknowledgements}

\begin{dissertation-abstract}
I present a simple explanation of how to LaTeX your dissertation.
\end{dissertation-abstract}

\doublespacing
\tableofcontents

\startbody
```

```
\section{Introduction}
Using \LaTeX for your dissertation is easy.

\section{Body}
You can copy paste this code, and add your own dissertation.

\section{Conclusion}
The dissertation class should help you with your formatting.

\end{document}
```