

Guidelines for the Licentiate Diploma Dissertation

The dissertation should be approximately 5,000 words.

1. The key to writing a successful dissertation is to choose a clearly defined aspect of speech and drama on which to focus.
2. Your introduction should explain the topic you are exploring and outline how you intend to approach it.
3. Your conclusion should briefly summarise your overall argument and the main ideas discussed in the dissertation.
4. You may divide the dissertation into sections with subheadings where this helps to organise your work. For example, a dissertation about improvisation might include sections entitled "The History of Improvisation", "Improvisation in the Classroom Today" or "Improvisation with Junior Students".
5. Arrange the sections in a clear and logical order. If you choose an unusual structure to emphasise a principal point, explain your reasons in the introduction.
6. The dissertation should be typed on A4 pages using a standard, easily readable font, such as Times New Roman, in 12-point size. The text should be double-spaced. If submitting a printed copy, print on one side of each page unless instructed otherwise.
7. Include a cover page showing the title of the dissertation, the date, your name and your qualifications.
8. Include a bibliography of primary and secondary sources after the conclusion. Entries should be arranged alphabetically. The bibliography does not count towards the overall word limit.
9. Ask a friend, family member or colleague to read your dissertation before you submit the final version. It can be difficult to spot errors in your own work.
10. Back up your dissertation regularly and keep copies in more than one secure location. Retain a copy of the final dissertation after submission.
11. Finally, choose a topic that genuinely interests you and offers sufficient material for discussion. Your interest in the subject will help you remain engaged and produce your best work.