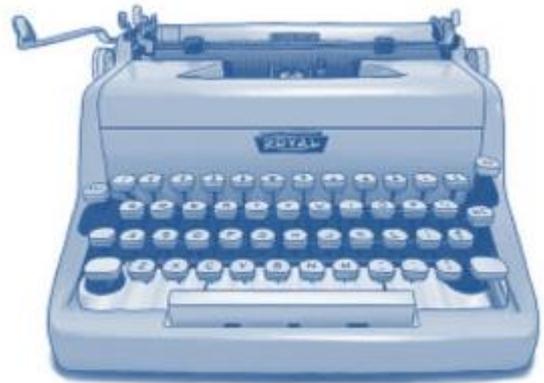


Writing your Dissertation: Tips and Pointers

There's no need to start writing Chapter One first.

The most productive approach in writing the dissertation is to **begin writing those parts of the dissertation that you are most comfortable with**. Then move about in your writing by completing various sections as you think of them. At some point you will be able to spread out in front of you all of the sections that you have written. You will be able to sequence them in the best order and then see what is missing and should be added to the dissertation. This way seems to make sense and builds on those aspects of your study that are of most interest to you at any particular time.



Keep your drafts organised

Just as soon as you print a draft of a chapter there will appear a variety of needed changes and before you know it another draft will be printed. And, it seems almost impossible to throw away any of the drafts! After awhile it will become extremely difficult to remember which draft of your chapter you may be looking at. **A good tip to avoid confusion is to print each draft of your dissertation on a different colour paper.**

Don't stress over graphs and tables in the early stages

If you are using graphs and tables don't waste valuable time trying to make them look perfect in the early stages. Concentrate on your writing and perfect your graphs towards the end of the process. A simple rule - if you are presenting information in the form of a table or graph **make sure you introduce the table or graph in your text**. And then, following the insertion of the table/graph, make sure you discuss it. If there is nothing to discuss then you may want to question even inserting it.

