Sample Prefaces

Every thesis or dissertation must include a Preface that includes the following:

- a description of the student's role in the work as presented, and the role of any collaborators, if present
- a statement on the use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) tools in producing the work.
- certificate numbers of the Ethics Certificate(s) applicable to the work, if ethics approval was required

The first two points must be addressed in every Preface. If no ethics approval was required, this does not have to be stated.

We begin with two synthetic samples appropriate when the dissertation was solely authored by the student, and Generative AI was not used.

Sample 1:
This thesis is original, unpublished, independent work by the author, L. Etudiant. No Generative Artificial Intelligence tools were used in the research process, development, or writing of the thesis.

Sample 2:
This thesis is an original intellectual product of the author, E. Leve. No Generative Artificial Intelligence tools were used in the development or writing of the thesis. The fieldwork reported in Chapters 2- 4 was covered by UBC Ethics Certificate number 007.

Separate sections below address specifics of collaborative work and GenAI statements.

Collaborative work

When a student's research is done in collaboration with a large team, clearly identifying the student's contribution and ascribing appropriate credit to others takes more space. The three extended samples below (4, 5, and 6,) illustrate good practice; they are taken verbatim from real UBC theses. Each write-up is tightly focussed on expressing who did what. Readers should be able to find details of what was achieved elsewhere in the thesis, so there is no need to repeat them in the Preface.

Note: Samples 3, 4, and 5 do NOT include a GenAI statement because they pre-date the requirement. Samples of GenAI statements are below, in samples 7-10.

Sample 3: from ubc_2012_fall_brook-roberge_daniel.pdf

This dissertation is ultimately based on the experimental apparatus and data of the T2K experiment, the subject of a large international collaboration. None of the text of the dissertation is taken directly from previously published or collaborative articles.

The hardware design in Chapter 3 was done primarily by S. Yen and myself, except for the system in Section 3.5, which was designed by C. A. Miller. The construction and tests in Chapter 4 and Chapter 5 were performed by S. Yen and I, with assistance from many other collaborators for large-scale assembly work. The data analysis in Chapter 5 and elemental composition analysis in Chapter 6 are my original work.

The two-dimensional Hough and Radon transform reconstruction algorithms in Part III are of my own design and implementation, as are the reconstruction performance metrics of Chapter 9. The 3D matching algorithm described in Section 9.3 and used in conjunction with my 2D pattern recognition was written by T. Lindner and K. Ieki.

The event selection in Chapter 10 is a refinement and extension of a method developed by F. Sanchez and M. Ravonel, while I developed the subtraction method used to extract the cross-section ratio. Several of the systematic errors in Chapter 11 were estimated by other collaborators; these contributions are cited where appropriate. I adapted all of these systematics to my modified selection and analysis method, and developed the reduced FGD analysis of Section 11.6.1. The entire analysis was done within the context of the T2K ND280 μ group, with additional incidental contributions from many of that group's members.

Sample 4: from ubc_2012_fall_warner_adam.pdf

Chapter 1. Figures 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, and 1.5 are used with permission from applicable sources. Portions of the introductory text are used with permission from Meissner et al. (2009) of which I am an author. I created Table 1.1, which is modified from Supplementary Table 3 in Meissner et al. (2009). Portions of the introductory text are also modified from previously written introductory material from my master's thesis entitled "Identification of Novel Genes Affecting Body Wall Muscle in Caenorhabditis elegans" (2007) completed at the University of British Columbia.

Chapter 2. A version of this material has been published as Warner, A.D., Qadota H., Benian G., Vogl, A.W., and Moerman D.G. (2011). The Caenorhabditis elegans paxillin orthologue, PXL-1, is required for pharyngeal muscle contraction and for viability. Molecular Biology of the Cell. Jul 15;22(14):2551-63. Hiroshi Qadota and Guy Benian (Emory University, Atlanta, USA) provided data relating to protein interactions including yeast two- hybrid and protein binding assays in Figures 2.4 (A, B, D), 2.6 and 2.7. Hiroshi Qadota and Guy Benian also provided Figure 2.8 and the corresponding data. Electron microscopy imaging was provided by Wayne Vogl (University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada), as seen in Figures 2.5 and 2.9. I performed all additional experiments. Don Moerman and I conceived the experiments and I wrote the manuscript for the published paper.

Sample 5: from ubc_2012_fall_campbell_adam.pdf

All of the work presented henceforth was conducted in the Neural Control of Posture and Movement Laboratory at the University of British Columbia, Point Grey campus. All projects and associated methods were approved by the University of British Columbia's Research Ethics Board [certificate #H06-04047].

A version of Chapter 2 has been published [Campbell AD, Dakin CJ, Carpenter MG. Postural responses explored through classical conditioning. Neurosci 164:986-997, 2009]. I was the lead investigator, responsible for all major areas of concept formation, data collection and analysis, as well as manuscript composition. Dakin CJ was involved in the early stages of concept formation and contributed to manuscript edits. Carpenter MG was the supervisory author on this project and was involved throughout the project in concept formation and manuscript composition.

A version of Chapter 3 has been published in the Journal of Neurophysiology [Campbell AD, Chua R, Inglis JT, Carpenter MG. Startle induces early initiation of conditioned postural responses. J Neurophysiol doi: 10.1152/jn.01157.2011]. I was the lead investigator, responsible for all major areas of concept formation, data collection and analysis, as well as the majority of manuscript composition. Chua R and Inglis JT were involved in the early stages of concept formation and contributed to manuscript edits. Carpenter MG was the supervisory author on this project and was involved throughout the project in concept formation and manuscript edits.

I was the lead investigator for the projects located in Chapters 4 and 5 where I was responsible for all major areas of concept formation, data collection and analysis, as well as the majority of manuscript composition. Chua R and Inglis JT were involved in the early stages of concept formation and contributed to manuscript edits. Squair JW contributed to data collection and manuscript edits. Carpenter MG was the supervisory author on this project and was involved throughout the project in concept formation and manuscript edits.

Use of Generative AI Tools

Use of GenAI tools and their outputs in a thesis or dissertation must be approved by your supervisor, must be disclosed in the Preface, and must be cited and described in detail as appropriate, in descriptions of methodology. The following are some synthetic examples for various use cases.

Sample 6:

Throughout my research and thesis writing, and with the approval of my supervisor, I utilized ChatGPT 4.5 and Microsoft Co-pilot as tools to help me brainstorm ideas, clarify complex concepts, and enhance the overall structure of my arguments. Additionally, they assisted in refining my writing by offering suggestions for grammar, style, and coherence. While the GenAI tools served as a valuable supplementary resource, all final interpretations, conclusions, and analyses remain my own, ensuring that the work reflects my original thought process and academic integrity. Specific uses and products of GenAI tools that are reflected in my thesis are cited in situ, and described in more detail in my methods chapter.

Sample 7:

I completed all data analyses for this thesis and wrote all thesis chapters, unassisted by GenAI. I used [state specific AI tool] to obtain suggestions for the original outline structure, using the prompt "What is a good outline for a thesis on the effectiveness of ABA therapy for anxiety in autistic teens?" I used [state specific AI tool] to create images found in the thesis, as cited.

Sample 8:

The use of Generative AI in this thesis was limited to the use of [state specific AI tool] for checking sentences and paragraphs for correctness and clarity.