

# The `york-thesis` Package\*

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## Abstract

The `york-thesis` package implements the York University (Toronto, Canada) Faculty of Graduate Studies guidelines for Thesis and Dissertations. This class file is based on the `report` class included in every  $\text{\LaTeX}$  distribution. All requirements are pre-programmed and various additional bits that I found useful when writing my dissertation are included.

## 1 Description

This document specifies completely the changes the class file makes to the `report` class in order for the output to meet the York FGS specifications for Theses and Dissertations. These guidelines are available from your gradate programme office and from FGS. They are also available at <http://www.yorku.ca/grads/pub/pre.htm> but this page is currently dated October 4, 2002 and may not be up to date when you read this. It is your responsibility to ensure that your output meets these requirements.

## 2 Usage

### 2.1 Installation

The only file you need to install is the `york-thesis.cls` file. It goes in your personal `texmf` tree, wherever that is. For MacOS X users, this location is in `Library/texmf/tex/latex/` in your home folder.

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\*2004/05/05 v1.8

<sup>†</sup>For the love of all that is holy, if you find errors your output, get hold of me pronto at [gall@spookyhill.net](mailto:gall@spookyhill.net) — I will make every effort to make the corrections quickly and get back to you. However, you need to describe the problem clearly and include the source and output that offends.

## 2.2 Deployment

The `york-thesis` class is invoked in the standard fashion:

```
\documentclass[york-thesis]
```

The defaults are `12pt,draft,letterpaper`.<sup>1</sup> The `\documentclass` command has extra functionality built into two options: `draft` and `final`. The `draft` option sets the margins to 1 inch all around and single-spaces everything (except the title page). All other `draft` features of the `report` class (such as marking overfull boxes and providing empty boxes for graphics) are left intact. The `final` option sets all parameters for producing output suitable for examination and deposit.

## 2.3 Preprogrammed Formats

The York FGS guidelines are both specific and vague. Where the guidelines *require* some feature, it is implemented as the default. If you change the behaviour of anything, you should confirm that this liberty is permitted by the guidelines. I have taken some liberties that are premitted — these are detailed below.

**quote, quotation, and verse environments** I have made a command decision regarding these environments. The guidelines allow for single spacing these in the submission copy and I think it just looks better to do so. So, these three environments are single-spaced in both `draft` and `final`. I am planning to implement a switch for this in the future. If this is an important feature for anyone, please give me a shout.

**\footnote command** Similarly with footnotes, the guidelines allows them to be single-spaced, so they are. Again, if anyone needs this soon, give me a shout.

## 2.4 The Template File

I have included in the package a template file that can serve as a template root document for your thesis/dissertation project. It makes a number of assumptions about how you might want your final document to look, but none are required.

**\setcounter{tocdepth}{1}** This command sets the depth to which the table of contents will be built. For subsections to be included set to 1, for subsubsections set to 2, etc.

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<sup>1</sup>Keep in mind that the guidelines require `12pt` and `letterpaper` for the submission copies.

**\includeonly** This command will tell L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to include only the specified file. This is handy if you need to generate only one chapter.

**\include** This command links each chapter file to the root document. I recommend doing it this way (having each chapter in a separate file) for it keeps individual files small and allows for better organisation when editing.

## 2.5 Switches and Variables

**masters** This boolean sets whether this is a PhD dissertation or a Masters thesis.

Example: `\setboolean{masters}{true}`

**hasfigures** This boolean sets whether there are any figures in the text. All this switch does is tell L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to construct a list of figures and insert an entry for the list of figures in the table of contents.

Example: `\setboolean{hasfigures}{true}`

**hastables** This boolean sets whether there are any tables in the text. All this switch does is tell L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to construct a list of tables and insert an entry for the list of tables in the table of contents.

Example: `\setboolean{hastables}{true}`

**\title** This variable specifies the title of the work for the title page. This must be entered in ALL CAPS.

Example: `\title{TWO DOGMAS UNLEASHED: QUINE'S ATTACK ON CARNAP}`

**\author** This variable specifies your name for the title page. This must be in upper and lower case.

Example: `\author{W. V. O. Quine}`

**\department** This variable specifies the department or graduate programme within which you are pursuing the degree.

Example: `\department{Philosophy}`

**\date** This variable specifies the full month and year of the defense date. It must be in upper and lower case.

Example: `\date{September 2004}`

**\mastersof** This variable specifies which Masters degree you are attempting. This variable has no effect if `\boolean{masters}` is false, i.e., if this is a PhD dissertation.

Example: `\mastersof{Science}`

**\abstractfile** This variable specifies the filename of the .tex file that contains your abstract. The first line of the abstract should not be indented, so this is forced by the class file.

Example: `\abstractfile{abstract.tex}`

**\acknowledgementsfile** This variable specifies the filename of the .tex file that contains your acknowledgements. The first line of the acknowledgements should not be indented, so this is forced by the class file.

Example: `\acknowledgementsfile{acknowledgements.tex}`

`\def\resetfootnote{\setcounter{footnote}{0}}` This piece of cryptic code allows you to reset the footnote counter for each chapter. The `york-thesis` class does not reset the footnote for each chapter. If you are so inclined, you may insert this command in the preamble of your root document.

`\makefrontmatter` This command generates the title page, abstract, acknowledgements, table of contents, and lists of tables and figures. It can be commented out until you need the front matter generated.

### 2.5.1 Additional Switches, Variables, and Commands

`\epigraph{pithy quote}{source}` I have added a command to insert an epigraph to be used immediately after the `\chapter` command (or wherever it strikes your fancy). It takes two arguments: a pithy quote and the source. The text is inserted right-justified with a rule underneath just after the chapter title (when invoked right after the `\chapter` command).

For example, the command

```
\epigraph{There once was a man from Nantucket\dots}{Famous bawdy limerick}
```

generates the following:

There once was a man from Nantucket...

Famous bawdy limerick

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The output is single-spaced in both `draft` and `final` modes. As you can see, the possibilities are endless.

## 2.6 Environments

There are no new environments, but `quote`, `quotation`, and `verse` have been modified as specified in §2.3.

## 3 Miscellaneous Goodies

### 3.1 Bugs

There are, of course, no bugs in this class file. In the incredibly unlikely event that it does not perform correctly, it is obvious that it is the operator's fault. Please send a detailed description of your error to me at [gall@spookyhill.net](mailto:gall@spookyhill.net) and I will instruct you in the proper use of the class file. If, on the other hand, you have the temerity to think that there could be *improvements* to this most perfect code, please send those along as well for I do enjoy condescending to those who who second-guess genius.<sup>2</sup>

### 3.2 Future Features

- Implement a switch for the `quote`, `quotation`, and `verse` environments so that they are double-spaced in final mode.
- Implement a switch for the `footnote` command so that they are double-spaced in final mode.
- Generation of subject matter appropriate text. I foresee a `generate` option for the `\documentclass` command. This option will, if the computer is attached to the Internet, search all available sources, generate a thesis statement (based upon the value of the `\title` variable), and the supporting arguments for that thesis. I anticipate a great deal of extra code will be necessary, so this feature will be an ongoing project.

### 3.3 Changes

From the class file:

```
% Version History
% -----
%
% v1.8 2004-05-05      Removed code for the copyright page; York theses
%                      have pre-printed copyright and certificate pages
%                      that are un-numbered and inserted after printing
%                      pagination for the abstract page starts at iv
%
% v1.7 2004-03-27      Added code to single space the verse environment
%
% v1.6 2003-11-21      Added code to remove chapter resets of footnote
%                      numbering.
%
```

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<sup>2</sup>For the humour-impaired, if this thing is messed up, send me a detailed description of the error or improvement desired and I'll make something useful happen.

```

% v1.5 2003-09-20      Changed appearance of chapter titles:
%                      removed \chaptername and placed the
%                      section number on the same line as the
%                      label (suggested by Dave Makalsky)
%
% v1.4 2003-09-07      Made subsection and subsubsection sizes more
%                      sane
%
% v1.3 2003-03-30      Corrected some typos and added an epigraph
%                      command
%
% v1.2 2002-02-15      Corrected error with bibliography toc line
%
% v1.1 2002-02-13      Modifications by Norm Gall <gall@spookyhill.net>
%                      for York University, Toronto, ON, Canada;
%                      a) name changed to york-thesis
%                      b) added a TOC entry for the Table of Contents
%                      c) added {final | draft} option in
%                      \documentclass command
%                      d) made footnote spacing single spaced in
%                      final
%                      e) changed quoting environments for single
%                      spacing in final
%                      f) various housekeeping functions
%
% v1.0 1995-04-25      Set up for distribution to others.
%
% 9/1997 changes by Stefan Kehrbaum (sk) to accomodate new guidelines
% implemented by the graduate school in summer 1997
%
% v0.3 1995-01-15      Got rid of a bunch of stuff that I don't think
%                      is needed. I.e., some of the cross referencing
%                      stuff. I think that most people either won't
%                      use this or they have their own macros.
%
% v0.2 1995-01-15      Modified slightly to conform to LaTeX2e
%                      suggested standards
%
% v0.1 1995-01-15      Test of Class file
%                      Included (Aaron Naiman's modified version) of
%                      dissertation.sty
%

```

### 3.4 Package Contents

This package consists of the following files and folders:

- `york-thesis.cls`: the class file
- `yorkTemplate.tex`: the template file
- `documentation.pdf`: this document in pdf
- `documentation.dvi`: this document in dvi
- `documentation.tex`: the source for this document
- `sample-thesis` folder
  - `sample-thesis.tex`: a sample root document
  - `abstract.tex`: a sample abstract
  - `acknowledgements.tex`: sample acknowledgements
  - `chapter-1.tex`: a sample chapter
  - `sample-thesis.bib`: a sample bibliography
  - `sample-thesis.pdf`: the generated thesis in pdf
  - `sample-thesis.dvi`: the generated thesis in dvi