DO’S AND DON’TS WHEN WRITING YOUR THESIS OR DISSERTATION

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SURVIVAL SKILLS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS
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DR. DEBORAH LEE
PROFESSOR AND COORDINATOR, GRADUATE STUDENT SERVICES
Strategies for managing the process.

Writing for an academic audience.
THE BEST DISSERTATION (OR THESIS)...

.....is a Finished Dissertation (Or Thesis)!
WHY ARE YOU WRITING A THESIS OR DISSERTATION?
STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESSFULLY WRITING A THESIS OR DISSERTATION
Recognize that this is a process, not just a product.
Start...and maintain...a good relationship with your chair/advisor and your committee.
Develop a specific, detailed timeline for your project.
Research + Writing = Dissertation or Thesis
Making writing a commitment on par with other commitments.
Avoid binge writing.
Understand the stages of the academic writing process.
STAGES IN THE WRITING PROCESS

Pre-Writing

Revision
Editing

Writing
Expect revisions!!
Take advantage of available resources.
LIBRARY SERVICES

- Research Resources & Services
- Research Services (research consultations)
- Office of Thesis and Dissertation Format Review
- http://lib.msstate.edu
OTHER RESOURCES

- Writing Center
  - http://www.writingcenter.msstate.edu
  - Available at multiple locations (including the library!)
  - Appointments also available online.
Perfection is not your goal; know when to let go.
Celebrate your completion…and then publish your work!
Dr. Deborah Lee
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Your feedback on this session is greatly appreciated!