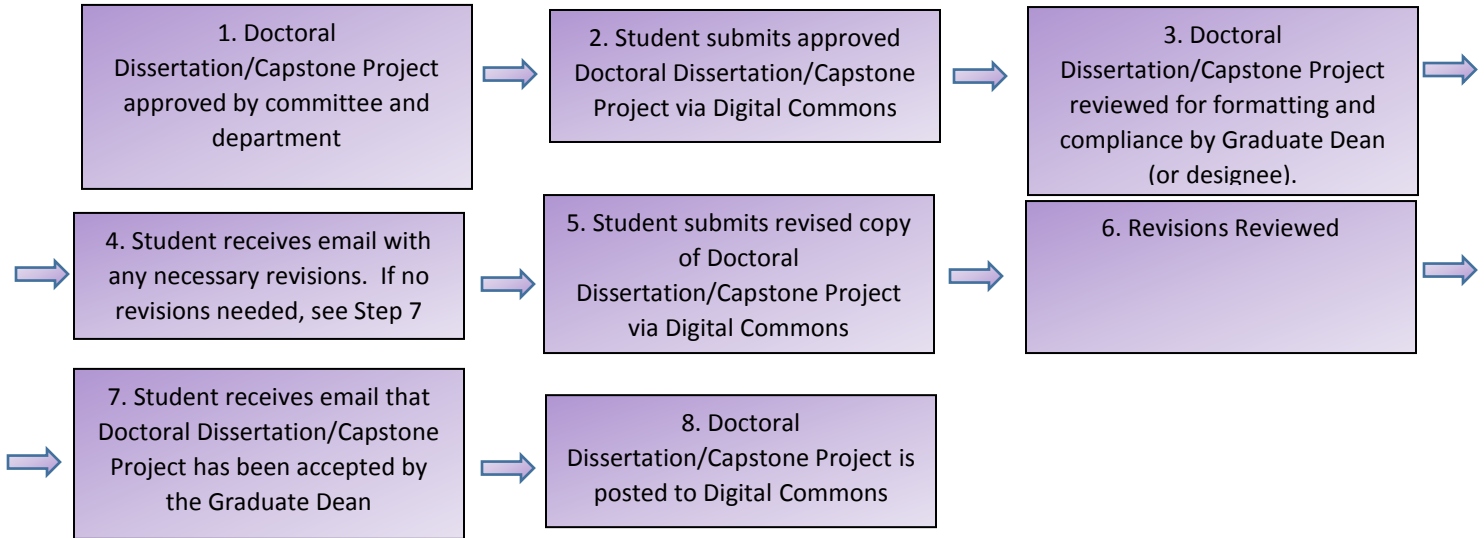


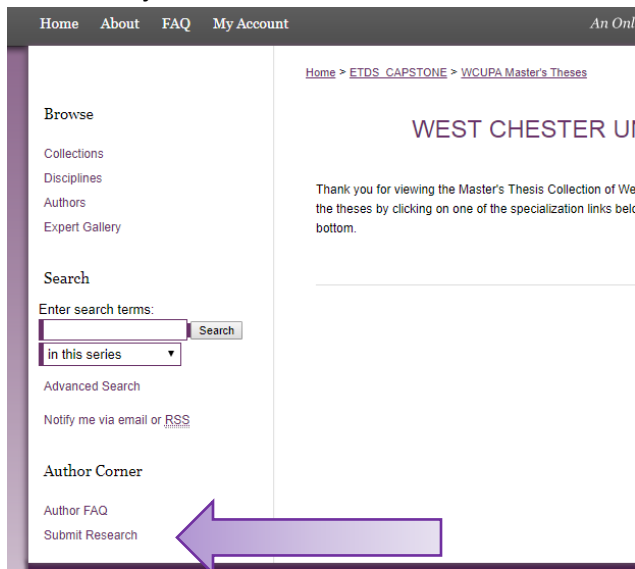
## **Doctoral Dissertation and Capstone Project Submission Guide**

### **Part I: Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project Submission Process**



## Part II: How to Submit Your Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project

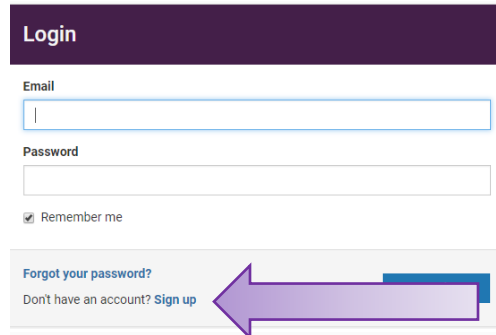
- Once your Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project has been approved by your committee, navigate to the following website: [digitalcommons.wcupa.edu/all\\_doctoral](https://digitalcommons.wcupa.edu/all_doctoral) (please copy and paste link into browser)
  - This will lead you to the West Chester University Doctoral Dissertations and Capstone Project collection
- Your electronically submitted Microsoft word or PDF document should include the following in single file in the following order:
  - Preliminary Pages for your specific dissertation or culminating project (please reference the formatting section of the Thesis and Doctoral Culminating Projects website ([https://www.wcupa.edu/\\_admissions/SCH\\_DGR/thesis.aspx](https://www.wcupa.edu/_admissions/SCH_DGR/thesis.aspx)))
    - Title Page
    - Dedication (optional)
    - Acknowledgements
    - Abstract
    - Table of Contents
    - List of Tables (if required)
    - List of Figures (if required)
  - Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project manuscript and references (as outlined in the Table of Contents)
  - Appendices (if applicable)
- Find the 'Submit Research' button on the left hand navigation bar
  - You must submit from the West Chester University Doctoral Dissertations and Capstone Project collection



- Create Digital Commons Account
  - You are **required** to submit using your West Chester University email address
  - Any submission from a personal email address cannot be accepted

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- If you already have a Digital Commons account under a different email address, you will need to create a new account under your WCU email address
- If you already have a Digital Commons account under your WCU email address, you can login and proceed to step 'Complete the Submission Form'



**Login**

Email

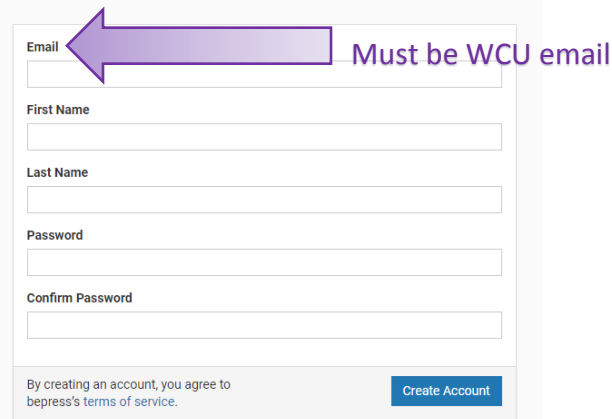
Password

☒ Remember me

[Forgot your password?](#)

Don't have an account? [Sign up](#)

**Create Account**



Email ← Must be WCU email

First Name

Last Name

Password

Confirm Password

By creating an account, you agree to [bepress's terms of service](#).

[Create Account](#)

- You will receive an email from [noreply@bepress.com](mailto:noreply@bepress.com) confirming the creation of your account
  - Please click the CONFIRM link
  - You will now be able to login



**WCU**  
WEST CHESTER  
UNIVERSITY

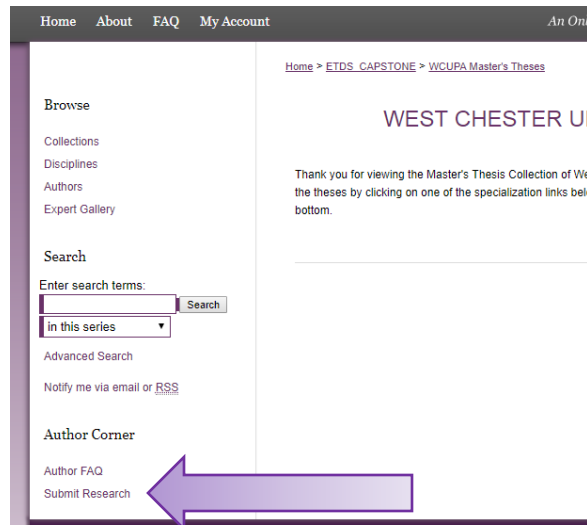
**Account Confirmation**

Thank you for your interest in creating a free account at West Chester University of Pennsylvania. Academics, researchers, and site administrators use their West Chester University of Pennsylvania accounts to access a wide range of services, publications, institutional repositories, and research portals.

[Confirm Account](#)

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- Make sure you return to [digitalcommons.wcupa.edu/all\\_doctoral](http://digitalcommons.wcupa.edu/all_doctoral) after you log in
  - You must submit from the West Chester University Doctoral Dissertation and Capstone Project Collection
  - If you are not automatically brought to the Submission Agreement, please click Submit Research on the left hand nav bar



- Please read the submission agreement carefully
  - Note you must upload your approved Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project as a Microsoft Word or PDF document for review
  - Make sure your preliminary pages are in the proper order (reference the Formatting Style Guide and Preliminary Pages Template which can be found on the Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project and Doctoral Culminating Projects Website (<https://www.wcupa.edu/thesisdoc>))
  - Confirm you agree to the terms of the Submission Agreement and click CONTINUE

WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY DOCTORAL  
DISSERTATIONS AND CAPSTONE PROJECTS

Submission Agreement

Follow the instructions below to submit to *West Chester University Doctoral Dissertations and Capstone Projects*.

Before submitting, please read all relevant policies and/or submission guidelines. It is recommended that you have the Doctoral Dissertation and Capstone Projects Submission Guide readily available should there be any questions or concerns during submission. You can find the guide here: [https://www.wcupa.edu/\\_admissions/SCH\\_DGR/thesis.aspx](https://www.wcupa.edu/_admissions/SCH_DGR/thesis.aspx)

The submission process consists of the following steps:

1. Read and accept the Submission Agreement below

2. Upload your Dissertation/Capstone Project as a Microsoft Word Document

Before you begin, please be sure you have the following items:

▫ The submission's title

▫ Properly formatted preliminary pages. Please refer to the Doctoral Dissertation and Capstone Projects Submission Guide for correct format

▫ The abstract (up to 250 words)

▫ A list of keywords (10 maximum)

▫ Your Dissertation/Capstone as a Microsoft Word Document

Submission Agreement for *West Chester University Doctoral Dissertations and Capstone Projects*

By checking the box below through the Graduate Studies Office, I agree to supply you, WCU Library, with a digital copy of my doctoral culminating project and with an abstract of the project. I agree to supply the Graduate Studies Office with written permission to distribute any previously copyrighted materials within the body of the work.

I hereby grant to WCU Library the non-exclusive right to reproduce and distribute my doctoral culminating project and my abstract, in whole or in part as indicated at the time of submission.

I represent that the project and the abstract are my original work, do not infringe or violate any rights of others, and that I make these grants as the sole owner of the rights to my doctoral culminating project and abstract. I hereby agree to indemnify and hold West Chester University harmless from any liability or damage it may incur arising from or related to any breach or violation of any third party rights as a result of the reproduction or distribution of my doctoral culminating project and related materials.

I warrant that I have obtained all necessary rights to permit WCU Library to reproduce and distribute any non-public third party software necessary to access, display, run or print my doctoral culminating project as indicated at the time of submission.

NOTE: It is suggested that you print this page for your records.

☐ Please check this if you agree to the above terms.

Continue

- Complete the Submission Form
  - Title – Must be typed exactly as it is on your committee approved document
    - Headline Capitalization – The First Letter of Each Word Capitalized  
*Please do not put your title in all caps*

**REQUIRED** Title

Please enter the title using Headline Capitalization. It should be entered exactly as it appears in the manuscript of your thesis.

Thesis Title

- Author – This is you, the student and should be auto populated from your Digital Commons account details

**REQUIRED Author**

1

(b) (5) DPP

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Jenna M krier, West Chester University of Pennsylvania

- Date of Award – will be the TERM and YEAR your degree will be conferred (ie, when you graduate)
  - Term = Summer, Fall, Spring
  - Year = 2018 (or applicable year)
  - Note, Winter is an option on the standard Digital Commons form, but it is not an option for WCU students since we do not confer degrees in Winter term.

**REQUIRED Date of Award**

Season	Year
-- ▼	

- Embargo Period – Length of time before your Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project is available to others (i.e. open access) through Digital Commons. Please read this section clearly to assure you select the appropriate option. There are limitations to this Digital Commons form. Please note, all abstracts will be available regardless of the embargo period.
  - Option 1 – You want your Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project available to the public (i.e. open access). Select the desired embargo from the drop down list.
  - Option 2 – You do not want your Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project available to the public indefinitely. Choose any embargo period, and the answer to the next question will override this choice. This is a system limitation.

**REQUIRED Embargo Period**

No Embargo Required ▼

- <sup>1</sup>Document Type – Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project and Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project Restricted
  - **Choose Dissertation, DNP Project, or Capstone Project** - If you selected Option 1 per the Embargo information above. This choice will result in your Doctoral

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<sup>1</sup> For academic years 2017-2018 and 2018-2019, all abstracts will be available, and access to your full manuscript is based on this selection and acquired by request.

Dissertation/Capstone Project being available to the public per the timeframe (embargo) you selected.

- **Choose Dissertation, DNP Project, or Capstone Restricted** - If you selected Option 2 per the Embargo information above. This choice will result in your Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project never being available to the public. Only your abstract would be accessible.

**REQUIRED** Document Type

Document Type:

- Degree Name – the degree that will be conferred to you upon successful completion of program
  - Degree Only (i.e., Doctor of Public Administration)

Degree Name

Name of the degree associated with the work as it appears within the work. (example: Masters in Operations Research)

Degree Name:

- Department – the program that your Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project was approved by. Please note Department is a standard Digital Commons term.
  - Program of study (i.e., Education Planning, Policy, and Administration )
  - Not department of study (i.e., Department of Education)

Department

Department:

- Committee Chairperson – please use the Committee Chairperson’s name as printed and signed on your approval page (please reference preliminary pages formatting guidelines which can be found on the Doctoral Dissertation/Capstone Project and Doctoral Culminating Projects Website (<https://www.wcupa.edu/thesisdoc>))

Committee Chairperson

- Keywords – this is **optional** but will assist with Digital Commons searches

## The Graduate School

## Keywords

Please enter up to 6 keywords or phrases, separated by commas. To enhance the indexing and retrieval of your doctoral project, you may add up to six keyword descriptors. These will help identify and classify your dissertation; for example, geographical locations or scientific names not mentioned in your title or abstract might be listed. This is an optional field.

**Keywords:**

- Subject Categories – this is **optional** but will assist in Digital Commons searches

### Subject Categories

Please select the subject category that best fits your doctoral project. Subject Categories will help the indexing of your doctoral project and the eventual retrieval of it by interested parties. Click [here](#) to view the complete list of disciplines. This is an optional field.

Available:	Selected:
<div><div><div><div></div></div><div>Architecture</div></div><div><div><div></div></div><div>Arts and Humanities</div></div><div><div><div></div></div><div>Business</div></div><div><div><div></div></div><div>Education</div></div><div><div><div></div></div><div>Engineering</div></div><div><div><div></div></div><div>Law</div></div><div><div><div></div></div><div>Life Sciences</div></div></div>	
<div>Select »</div>	
<div>« Remove</div>	







- Abstract – please include a copy of your abstract in the box provided. This should match the abstract that is included in your upload.






*Please limit to a 250 max word count.*

## Abstract

Learn how your abstract can [improve the discovery of your article](#) in Google and Google Scholar.

Paste or type Abstract:

**B** *I* |   |   |   | [HTML](#)

   |  

- Upload Full Text
  - You must select UPLOAD FILE FROM YOUR COMPUTER
  - Upload as a Microsoft Word or PDF Document. If you upload a Microsoft word document, it will be converted to a PDF before publishing.
  - We cannot accept imported files from remote sites at this time
  - **Make sure there is a file selected**

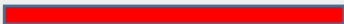


**REQUIRED** Upload Full Text

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To locate your file: Click the **Browse** button to locate your manuscript on your computer.

Full text of submission:

- ☐ Upload file from your computer
- ☐ 



- Additional Files
  - This section is optional for any additional files.

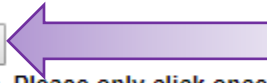
### Additional Files

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i. Additional files are for digital representations of your thesis (ie, recordings of your composition). This is not meant for approval pages, front matter pages, or appendices.

Please check this if you'd like to add additional files ☐

- Hit Submit



This may take a while. Please only click once.

### **Part III: Frequently Asked Questions**

- **What is the process for submitting my master's thesis or doctoral project?**

Upon successful presentation or defense of your thesis or doctoral project, please complete the following steps:

  - Submit the Approval Page with your committee signatures to the Graduate School (102 W Rosedale Ave, West Chester, PA 19383). Please work with your Committee Chair to have the hard copy approval page delivered to our office via interoffice mail, hand delivered, or regular mail (102 W Rosedale Ave, West Chester, PA 19382). You can also have it sent as a PDF attachment to [THESISDOC@WCUPA.EDU](mailto:THESISDOC@WCUPA.EDU). If we receive a submitted master's thesis or doctoral project prior to receiving the approval page, we will reach out to the committee chairperson and student.
  - Digitally submit your master's thesis or doctoral project via [digitalcommons.wcupa.edu](https://digitalcommons.wcupa.edu) for a formatting and compliance review. Please review the submission guidelines above.
- **What if I need to make changes to the document?**
  - You will be able to upload a revised Microsoft Word or PDF document via the link provided to you from the post-Submission Email. You may also be required to submit a revised Microsoft Word or PDF Document during the formatting and compliance review process. If you discover additional edits that need to be made while your document is under review, please send an email to [THESISDOC@WCUPA.EDU](mailto:THESISDOC@WCUPA.EDU).
- **How do I obtain the Graduate Dean's signature?**

Once your master's thesis or doctoral project has been approved by your committee, a copy of your approval page with all signatures except for the Graduate Dean is submitted to the Graduate School. Once the Graduate Dean has accepted your thesis, your form will be signed and placed in your student record.
- **What do I include in the document upload into Digital Commons?**

Your electronically submitted Microsoft word document should include the following in single file in the following order:

  - *Preliminary Pages (template available here)*
    - *Title Page*
    - *Dedication (optional)*
    - *Acknowledgements*
    - *Abstract (250 words max)*
    - *Table of Contents*
    - *List of Tables (if required)*
    - *List of Figures (if required)*
  - *Thesis manuscript and references (as outlined in the Table of Contents)*
  - *Appendices (if applicable)*
- **What document types can I upload?**
  - Microsoft Word or PDF

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- **I do not see my degree name listed. What do I put?**
  - Please contact [THESISDOC@WCUPA.EDU](mailto:THESISDOC@WCUPA.EDU) and we will get this corrected as quickly as possible.
- **I do not see my program listed. What do I put?**
  - Please contact [THESISDOC@WCUPA.EDU](mailto:THESISDOC@WCUPA.EDU) and we will get this corrected as quickly as possible.
- **How long is the review process?**
  - Anticipated review period for fall 2018 is 2 weeks after submission.