UTHM LaTeX Thesis Template 2026

A submission-ready LaTeX thesis template for UTHM Master and PhD students, designed to produce output that is fully compliant with UTHM requirements and visually consistent with MS Word.

This template removes the need for manual formatting and protects students from common TOC, appendix, and page-numbering errors.

Acknowledgement

This LaTeX thesis template was developed by Abdinasir Hirsi, a recent PhD graduate in Electrical Engineering from the Faculty of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (FKEE), Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM).

The development of this template was carried out under the supervision and guidance of PROF. MADYA Dr. Lukman Hanif bin Muhammad Audah, Deputy Dean of FKEE, who also served as the PhD supervisor of Dr. Abdinasir. His academic leadership, technical insight, and continuous support were instrumental in shaping both the research journey and the development of this template.

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This template is shared with the intention of supporting UTHM postgraduate students by simplifying thesis preparation and ensuring compliance with institutional formatting requirements.

Key Features

- UTHM-compliant layout and spacing
- Word-style Table of Contents
- Correct handling of:
- REFERENCES
- APPENDICES
- PUBLICATION
- VITAE (no page number)
- Stable page numbering
- No appendix leakage into TOC
- Times New Roman via XeLaTeX
- Student-safe structure with low risk of formatting errors

IMPORTANT: Compiler Requirement

This template MUST be compiled using:

XeLaTeX

Do NOT use pdfLaTeX
Do NOT use LuaLaTeX

Overleaf:

• Menu → Settings → Compiler → XeLaTeX

Folder Structure

```
UTHM_LaTeX_Template_2026/
■
├── main.tex ← Compile this file only
├── content.tex ← TOC & formatting logic (DO NOT EDIT)
■
├── frontmatter/
■   ├── frontpage.tex
■   ├── declaration.tex
■   ├── acknowledgement.tex
■   ├── abstract.tex
■   ├── symbols.tex
■   ├── publication.tex
■   └── vitae.tex
■
├── chapters/
■   ├── chapter1.tex
■   ├── chapter2.tex
■   ├── chapter3.tex
■   ├── chapter4.tex
■   └── chapter5.tex
■
├── appendices/
■   ├── appendixA.tex
■   ├── appendixB.tex
■   └── appendixC.tex
■
├── figures/
■
├── references.bib
■
├── USER_GUIDE.md
└── QUICK_START.md
```

Do not rename folders
Do not move files
Always compile `main.tex`

Getting Started (Fast)

1. Open main.tex
2. Set compiler to XeLaTeX
3. Compile
4. Start writing in:

• chapters/

• frontmatter/

• appendices/

5. Add references in references.bib

For details:

• README.md (recommended)

Design Philosophy

This template follows one principle:

Students write content. The template controls formatting.

Students should never need to:

• Adjust spacing
• Fix TOC alignment
• Insert page numbers manually
• Debug appendix behavior

Files Students MUST NOT Edit

• content.tex
• TOC formatting logic
• Page numbering logic
• Font configuration

Editing these files may break compliance.

Appendices Behavior (Word-Style)

• Only APPENDICES appears in the TOC
• Appendix A/B/C do NOT appear in the TOC
• TOC page number points to Appendix A

This behavior matches MS Word output used by UTHM.

References

• Edit only references.bib

• Use \cite{} for citations

• IEEE style is automatically

Support

If formatting issues occur:
1. Read USER_GUIDE.md
2. Confirm the compiler is XeLaTeX
3. Do not fix formatting manually

For template-level issues, contact the template maintainer.

Template Status

✔ Tested
✔ Stable
✔ UTHM-compliant
✔ Submission-ready
✔ Reusable for future theses