*IR@UF* :: Theses and Dissertations

**Overview**

The UF Libraries support digital and digitized or electronic theses and dissertations (ETDs) in the *Institutional Repository* or *IR@UF*, and with the *IR@UF*’s *ETD Digital Collection*: [www.ufdc.ufl.edu/ufetd](http://www.ufdc.ufl.edu/ufetd)

The *ETD Digital Collection* includes theses and dissertations from many sources with differing workflows for graduate theses & dissertations, graduate project-theses, and undergraduate theses.

**Graduate Theses & Dissertations**

Born-digital graduate theses & dissertations

* Theses & dissertations electronically transferred from the Graduate Editorial Office
* Related and supplemental data, submitted by graduate students using the self-submittal form
  + Graduate Editorial processes are optimized for the textual dissertation and thesis formats, making data non-optimal. In order to ensure support for the critical, related and supplemental data files, graduate students are referred to the self-submittal form for submitting their data. *See more on this process on the next page.*
  + The Digital Humanities Librarian supports questions on these data files.

Retrospectively digitized (re-born digital) graduate theses & dissertations

* Retrospective dissertation digitization policy: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00007596/00001/pdf>
* Retrospective dissertation digitization database: <http://uflib.ufl.edu/mydissertation/>

Project-in-lieu-of thesis or PILOs[[1]](#footnote-1)

* In 2009, a subcommittee of the Electronic Theses & Dissertations Committee met with faculty and staff from the advising offices and libraries that support the College of Fine Arts and the College of Design, Construction and Planning. The subcommittee addressed the need to fill the gap in digitization of terminal projects in programs within these colleges. Because these students produce projects rather than standard theses, they fell outside the normal processing of the Graduate Editorial Office, the body responsible for current electronic theses and dissertations. To better serve this segment of the student population on behalf of the libraries, the *IR@UF* began accepting copies of these projects in Spring 2009.
* Submission process for new and prior: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/ufirg/pilosubmission/>

**Undergraduate Honors Theses**

In Fall 2013, the Honors Program and Libraries began planning for ingesting all existing digital theses, currently stored with the Honors Program, and to establish a new workflow (likely following the PILO workflow) for new theses

**Collection Development & Management**

Curators may elect to add relevant theses and dissertations to their subject-aggregations. In some cases, additional directories or browses may be of interest, as with the department listing for PILOs: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/ufirg/pilo>

Supplemental Data & Data Sets for Theses and Dissertations

As stipulated in the 2013 Electronic Theses & Dissertations (ETD) Committee meeting with representatives from across the Graduate School and the Smathers Libraries including those with policy review authorities as with the University Archivist and Head of Records Management: related and supplemental data for theses and dissertations are submitted by graduate students using the self-submittal form. The graduate students then include the permanent link as a reference in their dissertation. The supplemental data files are not be located with or on the same record/object with the thesis/dissertation. Related links can be added for cross-linking and findability. The data files are not added as the same digital object to ensure clarity for records purposes and to ensure that the thesis/dissertation, which is an official record that goes through official processes, is not in any way confused with the supplemental data which does not go through the same processes but which is essential for academic research purposes with this process thus designed to support all needs.

Within the Libraries, the supplemental data is updated to ensure it is with the UFETD Digital Collection, to be co-located with the theses and dissertations. Also, the following is added by the *IR@UF* Coordinator and others as applicable as a subject term for ease of findability of all data sets and supplemental data files for theses and dissertations:

Data related to thesis / dissertation

Also, the *IR@UF* Coordinator adds a related URL link to the loaded thesis/dissertation from the supplemental data files and vice versa.

Resources and Presentations on Theses & Dissertations and the *IR@UF*

The selected resources here provide context and historical information for processes over time.

Additional resources on the *IR@UF* for theses and dissertations and more are available in the *IR@UF*, especially in the help collection: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/sobekcmhelp>

Additional related resources include a wide variety of resources, as with the example of this data set for the undergraduate Landscape Architecture projects: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00003504/00001>

Presentations from 2011:

* Documenting the Creative Mind: ETDs in the Fine Arts and Design: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00000431/>

Presentations from 2012:

* Retrospective Dissertation Scanning at UF: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00001001/>
* ETDs at UF: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00011750/>
* Copyright Considerations in UF’s Retrospective Dissertation Scanning Project: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00000920/>
* Beyond Google : authoritative sources for locating copyright holders: <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/AA00011438/>

1. <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/ufirg/aboutpilo/> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)