SAMPLE DOCTORAL DISSERTATION ABSTRACT

UNIVERSITY OF TURKU
Faculty
School
Department
SURNAME, FIRST NAME: Title of doctoral dissertation
Doctoral dissertation, 230 pages, 5 appendix pages
Doctoral programme
January 2014

Guidelines for writing an abstract

The doctoral dissertations and licentiate theses written at the University of Turku Faculty of Humanities must include an abstract both in Finnish and in English. The abstract should be placed after the title page. The purpose of the abstract is to give more information about the content of the dissertation to those who are interested in it.

The top part of the abstract, approximately 6 cm from the top of the page, should contain the following information (cf. above):
- university, faculty, school and field of research (department) to where the dissertation belongs
- surname and first name of the author in CAPITAL LETTERS
- the title of the dissertation
- the type of dissertation (e.g. licentiate thesis/doctoral dissertation), number of pages + appendices
- doctoral programme where the dissertation is completed (Doctoral Programme Juno or Doctoral Programme Utuling)
- month and year of completion.

The actual abstract is written after this bibliographical information. When writing the abstract, the author should assume that the reader has general knowledge about the subject. The abstract must be understandable on its own and it must be written in complete sentences, not as a list of sub-headings. The author must use established terms. The abstract must not include references or citations and it must not present information or arguments that are not a part of the actual dissertation. The information must be presented verbally (the use of equations, graphs and special symbols is not allowed). The abstract must be about 2 300/2 500 characters (with spaces), an independent and coherent whole that fits easily onto the abstract page with single-spacing.

The abstract should contain the following information:
- the topic of the research
- the subject, material, area and significance of the research
- research methods used
- key research findings
- conclusions and proposals for practices based on the findings
- keywords.

Keywords
The abstract must include keywords (index terms) that describe the content of the dissertation. The Finnish General Thesaurus (YSA) and the Library of Parliament Subject Headings (EKS) can be of help when selecting the appropriate keywords. Index term thesauruses can be found on the Internet (http://finto.fi/fi/).