



DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
UTTARAKHAND OPEN UNIVERSITY, HALDWANI

**Guidelines for M.Sc. (Botany) dissertation work (Winter Session
January, 2026)**

During the course of study, all the learners (M.Sc. Botany IV Semester, winter session-January 2026) have to do a compulsory short term research and submit a dissertation for partial fulfillment of the requirement of the M. Sc. degree. University offers number of themes for M. Sc. dissertation from which a learner can select a research topic under the guidance of allotted supervisor. Different themes for M.Sc. research are proposed by the concerned departments which are as follows:

- Economic Botany
- Ethnobotany and Medicinal Plants
- Molecular Biology and Biotechnology
- Microbiology and Applied Botany
- Plant Resource Utilization
- Plant Biodiversity and Conservation
- Plant Ecology
- Plant Taxonomy

Procedure for allotment of supervisors:

Learners can contact the supervisors allotted by the university for the successful completion of dissertation work (list attached).

- **Topic selection criteria:** Topic should be related to assigned themes of the dissertation work.
- **Synopsis must contain:** Synopsis should be of 3-5 pages. The standard font should be Times New Roman of 12 pts with 1.5 line spacing. Synopsis must be signed by learner and supervisor(s).

After finalizing the topic the learners have to submit soft copy of synopsis, approved and duly signed by the supervisor to **the mail id: dob@uou.ac.in within 15 days after publishing the guidelines in the university website**

***Note:** After completion of the dissertation work, learners have to submit the hard copy of dissertation (approved and duly signed by the supervisor) **by post in favour of "Coordinator, Department of Botany, Uttarakhand Open University, behind Transport Nagar, Teenpani Bypass Road, Haldwani, 263 139, District Nainital"** and soft copy of dissertation (approved and duly signed by the supervisor) **should be sent to the mail id: dob@uou.ac.in on 31 August, 2026**

GUIDELINES FOR SYNOPSIS

Synopsis should be summary of the study with significant findings that emphasize the original contributions in the submitted dissertation. After selection of the dissertation topic (themes allotted by university), use the following standards and structure to submit the synopsis.

1. **Title of the Dissertation/Topic**
 2. **Introduction:** must include background of proposed study, statement of problem and objectives.
 3. **Review of literature:** Highlights of already published work on the given topic.
 4. **Materials and methods:** Explains methods, tools & technique, materials required, etc. for the study.
 5. **References:** Cited literatures
- **Topic selection criteria:** Topic should be related to assigned themes of the dissertation work (attached in University website, Announcement).
 - **Synopsis must contain:** Synopsis should be of 3-5 pages. The standard font should be Times New Roman of 12 pts with 1.5 line spacing.
 - After finalizing the topic the learners have to submit soft copy of synopsis, approved and duly signed by the supervisor to the mail id: dob@uou.ac.in

GUIDELINES FOR DISSERTATION

The dissertation should be presented in a number of chapters, starting with Introduction and ending with Summary and Conclusions. Each of the other chapters will have a precise title reflecting the contents of the chapter. A chapter can be subdivided into sections and sub-section so as to present the content discretely and with due emphasis.

Chapter 1: Introduction:

The title of Chapter 1 shall be Introduction. It shall justify and highlight the problem posed, define the topic and explain the aim and scope of the work presented in the dissertation. It may also highlight the significant contributions from the investigation.

Chapter 2: Review of Literature:

This shall normally form Chapter 2 and shall present a critical appraisal of the previous work published in the literature pertaining to the topic of the investigation.

Chapter 3: Material and Methods:

This chapter deals with a detail methodology by which used to collect/ synthesize the data.

Chapter 4: Results and Discussions:

This shall form the penultimate chapter of the dissertation and shall include a thorough evaluation of the investigation carried out and bring out the contributions from the study. The discussion shall logically lead to inferences and conclusions as well as scope for possible further future work.

Chapter 5: Summary and Conclusions:

This will be the final chapter of the dissertation. A brief report of the work carried out shall form the first part of the Chapter. Conclusions derived from the logical analysis presented in the results and discussions chapter shall be presented and clearly enumerated, each point stated separately. Scope for future work should be stated lucidly in the last part of the chapter.

Chapter 6: References/Bibliography:

The candidates shall follow the style of citation and style of listing in one of the standard journals in the subject area consistently throughout his/her dissertation (mentioned below). However, the names of all the authors along with their initials and the full title of the article/monogram/book etc. have to be given in addition to the journals/publishers, volume, number, pages(s) and year of publication. Citation from websites should include the names(s) of author(s) (including the initials), full title of the article, website reference and when last accessed. Reference to personal communications, similarly, shall include the author, title of the communication (if any) and date of receipt. The example is given below:

For journal:

Ojha SN, Tiwari D, Anand A, Sundriyal RC (2020) Ethnomedicinal Knowledge of a Marginal hill Community of Central Himalaya: Diversity, Usage Pattern, and Conservation Concerns. *Journal of Ethnobiology and Ethnomedicine*. 16: 29.

For book:

Chauhan NS (1999) *Medicinal and Aromatic Plants of Himachal Pradesh*. Indus Publishing Company, New Delhi.

For Chapter in book:

Tewari LM, Tewari G, Chopra N, Tewari A, Pandey NC, Kumar M (2020) Phytochemical Screening and Antioxidant Potential of Some Selected Wild Edible Plants of Nainital District, Uttarakhand. In: *Natural Products and their Utilization Pattern* (Eds. Tewari G, Tewari A, Tewari LM). New York, NY: Nova Science Publishers, Inc. pp 71–97.

Chapter 7: Appendix:

- Detailed information, lengthy derivations, raw experimental observations etc. are to be presented in the separate appendices, which shall be numbered in Roman Capitals (e.g. “Appendix IV”).
- Submit the Plagiarism report (Any available plagiarism software) of the dissertation
- Please bind a copy of synopsis after the plagiarism report.

Type -Setting, Text Processing and Printing

The text shall be printed employing using a standard text processor. The standard font shall be Times New Roman of 12 pts with 1.5 line spacing.

Auxiliary

1. **Binding:** Hard Binding
2. **Front Covers:** The front covers shall contain the following details:

- Full title of thesis in 22 point's size font properly centered and positioned at top.
 - Full name of the candidate in 15 point's size font properly centered at the middle of the page.
 - Do not use University emblem (university logo) on the dissertation or synopsis.
3. **Blank Sheets:** In addition to the white sheets (binding requirement) two white sheets shall be put at the beginning and the end of the dissertation.
 4. **Title Sheet:** This shall be the first printed page of the thesis and shall contain the submission statement: the dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the Degree e.g. M.Sc., the name and enrollment No. of the candidate, name(s) of the Supervisor and Co- supervisor (s) (if any), Department, University and year of submission. Sample copy of the 'Title Sheet' is enclosed (Annexure I)
 5. **Dedication:** Sheet If the candidate so desires(s) he may dedicate his/her dissertation, which statement shall follow the title page. If included, this shall form the page 1 of the auxiliary sheets but shall not have a page number.
 6. **A Declaration of Academic Honesty and Integrity by Candidate:** A declaration of Academic honesty and integrity is required to be included along with every thesis/dissertation after the Supervisor's certificate. The format of this declaration is given in Annexure 'II' attached.
 7. Certificate from Candidate and Supervisor (Annexure 'III'):
 8. **Abstract:** The 500 word (maximum) abstract shall highlight the important features of the dissertation. The abstract in the dissertation, however, shall have two more parts, namely, the layout of the dissertation giving a brief chapter- wise description of the work and the key words.
 9. **Contents:** The contents shall follow the abstract and shall enlist the titles of the chapters, section and sub-section using decimal notation, as in the text, with corresponding page number against them, flushed to the right. Two separate lists of figure captions and table titles along with their numbers and corresponding page numbers against them shall follow the contents.
 10. **Abbreviation Notation and Nomenclature:** A complete and comprehensive list of all abbreviations, notations and nomenclature including Greek alphabets with subscripts and superscripts shall be provided after the list of tables and figures.

**Title of dissertation (ex. SYSTEMS OF KUMAUN
HIMALAYA)**

Dissertation

Submitted for the Award of Degree
of

Master of Science
in
Botany

By

ABCD (Name of the learner)

Under the supervision of

Prof./Dr./ Mr.
(Supervisor)

Department of Botany

Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani

**DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY
UTTARAKHAND OPEN UNIVERSITY, HALDWANI- 263139
(UTTARAKHAND)**

2023

..... KUMAUN LESSER
HIMALAYA, INDIA

16 + Bold &
Single Space

A Dissertation

12 + Bold

*Submitted in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the award of the degree*

12 Italic + Bold &
Both line Single space

of

12 Italic

Master of Science

12 + Bold

in

12 Italic

Botany

12 + Bold

by

12 Italic

Learner's name

12 + Bold

Department of Botany
Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani
(Nainital) Uttarakhand

14 + Bold
and
Single
Space

2023

Specimen 'II'

CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

I declare that this written submission represents my ideas in my own words and where others' ideas or words have been included, I have adequately cited and referenced the original sources. I also declare that I have adhered to all principles of academic honesty and integrity and have not misrepresented or fabricated or falsified any idea/data/fact/source in my submission. I understand that any violation of the above will be cause for disciplinary action by the University and can also evoke penal action from the sources which have thus not been properly cited or from whom proper permission has not been taken when needed.

(Signature)

(Name of the student)

(Enrolment No./Roll No.)

Date: _____

KU-SRICC-2018

Annexure II: Specimen for declaration certificate

**Department of Botany
Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani**

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Single Space

CERTIFICATE

14+ Bold
Underline

I hereby certify that the work which is being presented in the ~~Disertation~~ entitled
* _____ **KUMAUN**
LESSER HIMALAYA, INDIA* in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the
Degree of **Master of Science in Botany** and submitted in the Department of **Botany**
in **Uttarakhand Open University** is an authentic record of my own work carried out
during a period from 2023 to 2023 under the supervision of Dr.
....., Professor and Head, Department of **Botany, Uttarakhand Open University, Haldwani**

Uttarakhand Open University
Haldwani, Uttarakhand, India

The matter presented in this thesis has not been submitted by me for the award of any
other degree of this or any other University/institution.

12+ Bold

Name of the learner

This is to certify that the above statement made by the candidate is correct to the best of my knowledge.

12+ Unbold
in single line

Name of the supervisor

Annexure III: Specimen of supervisor certificate

Dissertation [BOTANY: M.Sc IV semester, Main (Winter session: January, 2026)]

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Note: The supervisors for the dissertation work of Back Learners will be the same as those allotted to them in the previous sessions.