ProQuest Dissertations & Theses
Automated Retrieval of Content (ARC)

PROQUEST ETD DISSEMINATION PROGRAM – HARVESTING
Why Partner with ProQuest Dissertations & Theses?

Including dissertations and theses in ProQuest means amplifying your research by making it available in a unified repository. It is a way to share knowledge and expertise with every level of researcher, from beginner to advanced, and contribute to future research initiatives. By including your works in ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global™, dissertations and theses can be studied in the context of generations of historical and ongoing scholarship.

Disseminating works since 1939

Nearly 5 million works

Over 200,000 works added each year

Across 100 countries
AMPLIFY your research

Making research easily discoverable to a vast community of scholars amplifies its reach, increasing visibility for the institution.

Inclusion in a Prestigious Scholarly Community
ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global is dedicated to furthering access to research globally. ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global consolidates research into a multidisciplinary resource and optimizes discovery through editorially created enhanced metadata and indexing. Contributing to ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global ensures that your institution's research outputs are discoverable by the top research institutes in the world.

Enhancing your International Reputation
ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global is used by over 4 million researchers at 3,100+ institutions around the world.

Complementing your Open Access Strategy
ProQuest partners with Google Scholar and 28 subject-specific indexes, further increasing discoverability of university research.

Usage Statistics that Demonstrate Impact
Detailed and valuable usage statistics are available to contributing universities. The ETD Dashboard shows usage of their dissertations at a per-item level, as well as information on which institutions and countries accessed the works.

“We are seeing genuine evidence of the increased use and impact on scholarly thinking of the theses that we have been able to make available.”
— Fiona Greig
former Head of Strategy and E-Resources
University of Surrey
For institutions with an existing electronic submission process, we offer Automated Retrieval of Content (ARC) at no cost. It is a simple, harvesting process that collects and archives the university’s dissertations and theses into ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global repository (PQDT).

“Now we submit our dissertations electronically in English to ProQuest Dissertations & Theses, which is easier and reaches a much wider audience. The publishing program is a good way to get Semmelweis University’s research into the hands of the wide academic community. Discoverability of PhDs is increasingly important in an internet-focused world, particularly in emerging research centres. It has clear advantages for both young researchers and their advisors.”

— Dr. Lívia Vasas
General Director
Semmelweis University Central Library, Hungary
STEP 1:
ProQuest and the university enter an agreement

The first step is putting a Letter of Understanding in place between the university and ProQuest to collect dissertations and theses.

The Letter of Understanding outlines key elements related to the harvesting, including:

• How the university will make the full-text PDFs and metadata for PhD dissertations and Master's theses available for harvesting
• How ProQuest will harvest the dissertations and theses from the university's institutional repository
• The means by which the university and its scholars can elect not to submit individual works or may withdraw works after they have been submitted
• No fees are due from the university
• Inclusion of the works in ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global (PQDT)
• Designation of ProQuest’s use rights as non-exclusive, and confirmation that the copyright holder retains flexibility on how and when the work is distributed
• Withdrawal policy that enables rapid removal of works coupled with an indemnification commitment from ProQuest
STEP 2:
Inform authors at your university

Communication and transparency are key best practices for institutions interested in capturing, promoting and preserving the intellectual output of faculty and students.

Based on our long-standing experience in assisting institutions with the dissemination of their scholarly output, ProQuest recommends the university share messaging in line with the paragraph below on its institutional repository as well as in its dissertations and theses workflow:

[University Name] disseminates its scholarly output of master’s theses and doctoral dissertations in ProQuest Dissertation & Theses Global in order to promote and preserve the intellectual output of its master’s and doctoral degree candidates. ProQuest® Dissertation & Theses Global reaches 3,100 universities with over 200 million searches annually and supports discovery of scholarly output through many major subject and discipline indexes (MathSciNet, PsycINFO, ERIC, etc.). ProQuest provides these services at no charge.

ProQuest facilitates the nonexclusive distribution of your master’s or doctoral thesis. You are eligible for a 10% royalty based upon sales and usage of the fulltext of your work distributed by ProQuest. You may withdraw your work from distribution at any time. Further author agreement information can be found here.

Please contact disspub@proquest.com with any questions or to set up your account to collect royalties.
Once the agreement is in place, ProQuest uses software to create robots that crawl OAI-PMH compliant repositories to harvest metadata and collect full-text PDF files.

After the initial harvest, robots generally run monthly, using the date-limited OAI-PMH request to check for new electronic dissertations and theses.

To get started the university provides:

- The base URL for the OAI-PMH repository
- Designated Technical contact person

After retrieval, ProQuest enters the metadata and full text into its editorial process, where each work is enhanced with subject and keyword metadata by editors in ProQuest’s Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA offices. The university’s works are then imported into PQDT Global for discovery and use by thousands of researchers around the world.

Respect, Responsiveness, Responsibility

ProQuest is committed to fully meeting the undertakings set out in our withdrawal policy that covers requests by authors or universities to remove their graduate works from PQDT Global within 1-2 business-days of the request. In our institutional repository harvesting agreements, ProQuest stands behind its withdrawal policy by agreeing to indemnify participating institutions if we fail to take all remediation steps outlined in the policy. This means that ProQuest is solely responsible for any liability or damages associated with ProQuest’s own failure to comply with its policy as it relates to the withdrawal of the full text of graduate works. ProQuest supports our participating universities and stands behind our commitment that all intellectual property is handled with respect, and in a manner consistent with authors’ rights and university values.
Ready to get started?

All you need to do is: **Sign the agreement.**

Provide us with your **OAI-PMH URL and technical contact.**

And send your agreement to: **disspub@proquest.com**

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**About ProQuest**

ProQuest is committed to supporting the important work happening in the world’s research and learning communities. The company curates content that matters to the advancement of knowledge, assembling an archive of billions of vetted, indexed documents. It simplifies workflows so that people and institutions use time effectively.

ProQuest and its companies and affiliates – Ex Libris, Alexander Street, and Bowker – stand for better research, better learning, and better insights.

**ProQuest enables people to change their world.**

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**To find out more about the services offered by ProQuest**

**Dissertations & Theses** contact your Account Manager or visit:

dissertations.com