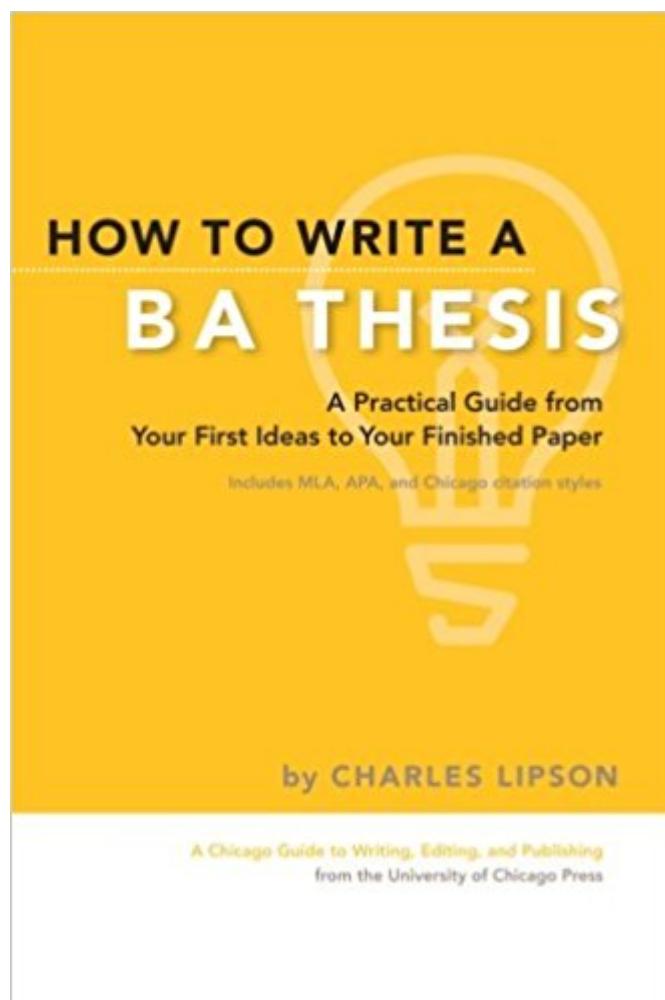




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# How To Write A BA Thesis: A Practical Guide From Your First Ideas To Your Finished Paper (Chicago Guides To Writing, Editing, And Publishing)





## Synopsis

The senior thesis is the capstone of a college education, but writing one can be a daunting prospect. Students need to choose their own topic and select the right adviser. Then they need to work steadily for several months as they research, write, and manage a major independent project. Now there's a mentor to help. *How to Write a BA Thesis* is a practical, friendly guide written by Charles Lipson, an experienced professor who has guided hundreds of students through the thesis-writing process. This book offers step-by-step advice on how to turn a vague idea into a clearly defined proposal, then a draft paper, and, ultimately, a polished thesis. Lipson also tackles issues beyond the classroom—from good work habits to coping with personal problems that interfere with research and writing. Filled with examples and easy-to-use highlighted tips, the book also includes handy time schedules that show when to begin various tasks and how much time to spend on each. Convenient checklists remind students which steps need special attention, and a detailed appendix, filled with examples, shows how to use the three main citation systems in the humanities and social sciences: MLA, APA, and Chicago. *How to Write a BA Thesis* will help students work more comfortably and effectively—on their own and with their advisers. Its clear guidelines and sensible advice make it the perfect text for thesis workshops. Students and their advisers will refer again and again to this invaluable resource. From choosing a topic to preparing the final paper, *How to Write a BA Thesis* helps students turn a daunting prospect into a remarkable achievement.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

A well developed, practical guidebook for accomplishment of honors or undergraduate research. . . .  
an invaluable text for honors education -- Journal of the National Collegiate Honors Council

Charles Lipson is professor and director of undergraduate studies in political science at the University of Chicago. He is the author of *Doing Honest Work in College*.

I've been putting off writing my thesis for years. I felt burnt out, unfocused, and clueless as to what to write about. I wish I had bought this book years ago. I am now enrolling in my final class and writing the long awaited thesis. This book is clearly written and seems to answer every question without being dry and like another useless textbook. It's gotten me excited about writing again.

Helpful, but not really necessary unless you're totally clueless about what a thesis is or how to organize a a writing project in general. If you experience with writing lengthy papers you can live without it..

Hope to be done using this soon.

This book was required for my thesis seminar. I referred to it a few times, particularly in coming up with a good topic for my thesis. However, it isn't absolutely necessary and a lot of the material is common sense if you've made it through college.

Worthwhile advice if a bit dull and wordy. Definitely reads quickly, though, and offers insight of which I wouldn't have thought--particularly on note taking and scheduling.

This is an excellent updated resource that has helped me tremendously in the short time that I have had it in my possession. This book will be a valuable asset when I attend graduate school! A great resoure for the money. I won't need any other writing resource!

I had expected this book to be dry and dull but I was pleasantly surprised. It has a conversational tone and is perfect for the beginner for a BA thesis. It is written with to do lists and highlight points that make it easy to follow and less intimidating.

Came in perfect shape!

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