FORMAT FOR MatSci TERMPAPERS

Term paper will consist of the following sections: “Title”, “Abstract”, “Introduction”, “Theory”, “Discussion”, “Conclusion”, and “References”.

**Title:** A title should be properly chosen to suit the content of the paper.

**Abstract:** Since readers look into the abstract before they read the entire article, the author needs to state briefly and concisely the article topic, importance of the topic, and highlights of the results and discussions in the paper.

*Some suggestions that most scholars agree on regarding the formulation of an abstract are as follows:* An abstract is usually 100-200 words in length, it is written as one paragraph, it may include numerical information about the procedure and the results, it should not include any information that is not reported in the paper, abbreviations should not be used unless they are spelled out in the abstract, citations or references are not given in the abstract, and present tense is usually used.

**Introduction:** In this section of the article, the author usually states why he/she has chosen that particular subject to study. He/she also establishes the importance of the subject by reviewing relevant literature. Significance and the possible contribution of the study should be clearly stated. This section should be kept brief and to the point in one or two pages.

**Theory:** A theoretical base for the article is established based on the literature information or on the author’s own findings/knowledge. This section may be 1-4 pages.

**Discussions:** In this section, statements given in Theory are discussed and interpreted.

Tables and figures, used in Introduction, Theory, and Discussions sections, should be numbered separately. Roman numerals will be used for tables, whereas Arabic numerals for figures. Each table and figure must have a caption. Figure captions should be located below figures, whereas table captions should be placed above tables. (e.g.; Table I. Hardness data for 1040 quenched steel. Figure 1. A plot of hardness versus depth.)

**Conclusions:** This section is a *restatement* of the information given in the article overall. **No new topics are introduced or discussed.** Conclusions/implications are drawn.

**References:** The references list all the publications used for the term paper. A reference mustn’t be listed if it is not used in the text. In the list, references are indicated numerically. **They must be given in the text in the same order as they are listed in References section.**

Example references:
4. Liquid Crystal Group, Department of Physics, University of Colorado, “Introduction to Liquid Crystals”, http://bly.colorado.edu/lcphysics/lcintro/

**EXTREMELY IMPORTANT:**

1. One can use books, journals, WEB sites as a reference. **A minimum of 6 references will be cited, out of which a half will be of book or journal article in nature.** When a WEB article is referred to, author name & affiliation must be provided as for the books or journal articles.
2. Be aware that **PLAGIARISM** may get you expelled from the university. Copying a text directly from an article without giving it in quotations (even if a reference number is given) is plagiarism. **DO NOT DIRECTLY COPY (STEAL) INFORMATION. REWORD/REPHRASE IT. MAKE IT YOUR OWN.**
3. Be clear and concise in your writing. Dumping unnecessarily long information WILL NOT earn you any credit.
4. Explain figures/tables and refer to them in the text appropriately to help readers understand your text better. Do not give a figure or table if not explained in the text. Tell the reader what the figure/table shows and why you are using it.
5. Use A4 size paper with the following page margins: Left=25mm; Right=20mm; Top=25mm; Bottom=20mm. Limit number of pages to 7 (+ cover page). Use font “Times New Roman”, font size of 11, and line spacing of 1. Insert page numbers at bottom right. **STRICTLY OBEY “FORMAT FOR MATSCI TERM PAPERS”**.