What Is an Abstract?

The thesis abstract is a brief paragraph which summarizes the problem, method and results of the thesis. Because it must include conclusions, it is usually the last part of thesis to be written in final draft. It should use clear and simple language (avoid architectural jargon) and be around 200 words or less.

The abstract should include:

**Motivation** – Introduce the problem and explain briefly why it is important

**Problem statement** – What is the problem the thesis tries to solve?

**Approach** – What methods were used to explore the problem?

**Results** – The design solution proposed

**Conclusion** – What are the implications of this solution?

It may also include a list of **Keywords** related to the thesis topic.

Scroll down for a template and example.
THESIS ABSTRACT
ABSTRACT

San Diego's mild and sunny climate is one that rarely sees rainfall and in turn has diminishing freshwater reservoirs. This thesis looks to the importance of creating architecture that not only makes flourishing in any climate a possibility, but through incorporating natural and organic techniques that mimic existing cycles that the sun and earth perform to sustain life into architectural design, minimal impact to the earth and ecosystem can be achieved. I purpose a solar still array into large facades and roof systems that will use the sun to evaporate and purify seawater into fresh drinking water for the public. This thesis looks to solve San Diego's freshwater shortage and drought by mimicking the water cycle that the earth performs with the sun and ocean to create rain and replenish rivers, streams and lakes to provide for organic life. An argument is made to compare this process of solar stills to evaporate saltwater using sun energy with the new system currently being implemented into California's coast of desalination. I argue that desalination is too impactful to the environment with current energy producing methods and water gathering techniques. The amount of greenhouse gases and ecosystems that will be destroyed will actually become more harmful and outweighs the benefits of large freshwater production. I conclude with a project that incorporates a solar still roof that produces freshwater while shading a large architectural project and addresses the needs of a rapidly growing area of San Diego's East Village district.