# UK Doctoral Thesis Metadata from EThOS: information about the fields and data provided in the CSV file

### Last updated: July 2020

EThOS (<https://ethos.bl.uk>) is the UK’s thesis service. It contains records for almost all UK doctoral-level theses (c. 97%) awarded by UK Higher Education Institutions (HEI), and provides a route to the digital full text thesis wherever possible. All UK HEIs have at least some theses listed in EThOS; a list of participating HEIs is [provided here](http://ethos.bl.uk/HEIList.do).

EThOS data has been created and aggregated from a wide range of original sources, principally through harvesting of UK Institutional Repositories. Existing records in EThOS are constantly being updated and enhanced via these harvests, but not all records contain all elements (see table below). The partial nature of the dataset must be taken into account when using the data for research or analysis. A new snapshot is taken approximately every 6 months.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Field (column header)** | **Description** | **Approx % inclusion in data** | **Notes** |
| Title | The title of the thesis. | 100% |  |
| DOI | The Digital Object Identifier for the thesis. | <5% | Some HEIs now create DOIs for their theses but this is still rare. Most are generated via the DataCite DOI service.  E.g. [uk.bl.ethos.763835](https://ethos.bl.uk/OrderDetails.do?uin=uk.bl.ethos.763835) |
| Author | The name of the thesis author. | 100% | All records have a single author. |
| ISNI | The unique International Standard Name Identifier for the author. | 80% | ISNIs are assigned by a central agency to uniquely identify and disambiguate the bibliographic identities of personal and organisational authors & creators. E.g. [uk.bl.ethos.763835](https://ethos.bl.uk/OrderDetails.do?uin=uk.bl.ethos.763835). |
| ORCID | The ORCID identifier for the author | <5% | ORCID name identifiers are ‘claimed’ by personal researchers when they create their ORCID profile. Increasingly required by publishers and HEIs to support research and publishing workflows. E.g. [uk.bl.ethos.808736](https://ethos.bl.uk/OrderDetails.do?uin=uk.bl.ethos.808736) |
| Institution | The HEI responsible for the thesis. | 100% | The current name of the institution where the research was undertaken |
| Institution ISNI | The unique International Standard Name Identifier for the Institution. | 100% | ISNIs are assigned by a central agency to uniquely identify and disambiguate the bibliographic identities of personal and organisational authors & creators. |
| Date | Year of award for the thesis. | 100% |  |
| Qualification | The qualification name | 99% | A standardised, abbreviated qualification name, e.g. Thesis (Ph.D.) |
| Abstract | Short description of the content of the thesis | 55% | Long abstracts have been truncated |
| Subject Category | Subject discipline of the thesis | 90% | Each thesis is assigned to one of nineteen subject disciplines derived from the Dewey Decimal Classification System (<https://www.oclc.org/en/dewey.html>) |
| Supervisor | The name or names of the academic supervisor(s) of the award. | 20% | Multiple supervisors are separated by a space semi-colon space ( ; ) |
| Funder | The funder(s) of the doctoral research | <10% | Multiple funders are separated by a space semi-colon space ( ; ) |
| EThOS URL | The unique identifier for the EThOS record | 100% |  |
| Institutional Repository URL | The URL of the thesis record in the Institution's research repository | 55% |  |