

Binding a Thesis, Dissertation, Independent Study or Scholarly Project @ UND *The experience of a recent IDT Masters degree recipient*

The Binding Choice

The Chester Fritz Library offers binding services at the cost of \$11/copy (accurate 7/2008). I did some online research and concluded that this is a very good price. The CFL also offers printing and photocopying services, but upon inquiry, someone who worked there informed me that I would get better quality for less money at a copy-store.

The CFL sends out materials to be bound once **a month, around the 15th**. They prefer if you turn in your project a week or more before this time so that they will have time to prepare it for mailing.

The Printing Process

Kinkos and Office Max are two printing options in Grand Forks. You'll need to provide CFL with all as many copies of the project as you want bound. I printed my first copy at home on my printer and took that copy to Kinkos for duplication. I suggest printing most of your pages in black & white, paying for color only when the page really needs it. (*Note: it's highly worth your while to make sure your copy machine is set up to collate!!!*) I also chose to buy some fancy linen paper on which to print my title page. However you print, **be sure to use laser**, not inkjet. If inkjet pages get wet, the ink will smear (and no one wants a coffee-stained thesis!).

The Binding Process

I brought in my seven loose copies of my scholarly project in a box, and I put a separator between each copy. The clerk needed the following information:

- **Graduation year and type of project** (Thesis, Ind. Study, Scholarly Project, or Dissertation). This information -- along with last name -- is written on the spine.
- **What color binding and writing?** The binding is buckram fabric and there were over 20 colors! Anything from basic black to a snazzy mauve or burnt orange. I spent a while sifting through the provided swatches. The writing choices are white, silver foil or gold foil. (*If you're getting multiple copies, they don't all have to be the same color!*)
- **Delivery method.** For a reasonable fee, the CFL can mail the completed books to you. Or if you or someone you know is on campus, you can provide a Stop number and have them delivered free of charge. Otherwise, you or someone you designate can be notified by phone when they're ready for pick up.

Depending on when you drop them off, your books will be **ready in 4-8 weeks**.

The Cost and Result

My printed scholarly project was 140 pages, 8 of which needed to be color. I paid:

- \$39.50 for printing & copying at Kinkos
- \$11.50 for linen paper
- \$77 for seven bindings (four green with gold writing, one black with silver, two brown with silver).

My total cost (7/2008) for seven professionally-bound Scholarly Projects was \$128.