Sample Prefaces

The preface serves as the place within the thesis where a student can provide a brief statement as to the nature and extent of his or her contribution to any collaborative work that has been included in the thesis. It also serves as a place for including a short factual statement that any required research ethics approval was obtained. All theses at the University of Alberta must contain a preface when the thesis contains journal articles authored or co-authored by the student (including an accepted paper that is forthcoming at the time of thesis submission) and/or when the research conducted for the thesis required ethics approval. A preface need not be long; its purpose is not to summarize the thesis. The preface must be reviewed by your supervisor before your thesis to be considered by the examiners for the final examination.

Preface
(Mandatory due to research ethics approval)

This thesis is an original work by John Doe. The research project, of which this thesis is a part, received research ethics approval from the University of Alberta Research Ethics Board, Project Name “TITLE”, No. 12345, DATE.

Preface
(Mandatory due to collaborative work)

Some of the research conducted for this thesis forms part of an international research collaboration, led by Professor R.C. Smith at the University of Hogwarts, with Professor D.R. Brown being the lead collaborator at the University of Alberta. The technical apparatus referred to in chapter 3 was designed by myself, with the assistance of M.C. White and Professor D.R. Brown. The data analysis in chapter 4 and concluding analysis in chapter 5 are my original work, as well as the literature review in chapter 2.

Chapter 3 of this thesis has been published as J.D. Doe, M.C. Smith, and R.C. Smith, “Theoretical Responses to Rays in the Gamma System,” Journal of Scientific Affairs, vol. 165, issue 3, 459-475. I was responsible for the data collection and analysis as well as the manuscript composition. M.C. Smith assisted with the data collection and contributed to manuscript edits. R.C. Smith was the supervisory author and was involved with concept formation and manuscript composition.

Preface
(Optional)

This thesis is an original work by John Doe. No part of this thesis has been previously published.