

CRITERIA FOR THE EVALUATION OF THE MASTER'S THESIS

Updated on 19.11.2008

Evaluation criteria	Excellent 5	Good 4	Good 3	Satisfactory 2	Satisfactory 1	Fail
Choice of topic						
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - current topic is innovative, demanding and particularly significant for development of professional practice, generates new information - choice of topic is well reasoned and justified, and closely connected with core content of degree programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - current topic is significant for development of professional practice, partly generates new information - choice of topic is reasoned and justified - topic is connected with core content of degree programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - current topic is partly significant for development of professional practice, generates only little new information - choice of topic is justified - topic is connected with core content of degree programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - topic is not very current and only slightly connected with professional practice, not very significant for development of professional practice, generates only little new information - choice of topic is justified 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - topic is hardly current, insignificant for development of professional practice, generates no new information - choice of topic is insufficiently justified 	
Evaluation criteria	Excellent 5	Good 4	Good 3	Satisfactory 2	Satisfactory 1	Fail
Use of sources and theoretical basis						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - application of theory and framework - field-specific development challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - systematic, critical and justified examination of theories related to topic, earlier studies and field- 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - critical and justified examination of earlier theories, studies and field-specific development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - good familiarity with topic-related theories, studies and field-specific development challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - presentation of earlier theories, studies and field-specific development challenges is inadequate and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - loose connections with theories, earlier studies and field-specific development challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - no connections with earlier studies and field-specific development challenges

	specific development challenges	challenges		mechanical		
- selection and utilisation of sources	- international, high-quality sources are selected very critically and used very skilfully and comprehensively, aiming at synthesis	- international sources are critically selected, current and comprehensive, used skilfully, aiming at personal conclusions	- international sources are critically selected, up-to-date and comprehensive, used skilfully	- sources are up-to-date, text book level, presented insufficiently and mechanically	- sources partly up-to-date, presented insufficiently and mechanically	- sources partly outdated and inappropriate
- accuracy of concepts	- points of departure, problems, central concepts and their interrelationships defined and justified very well	- points of departure, problems, central concepts and their interrelationships defined and justified well	- points of departure, problems and central concepts defined and justified	- points of departure, problems or concepts defined and presented insufficiently	- points of departure, problems and concepts defined and presented insufficiently	- points of departure, problems and concepts presented vaguely or not at all
Evaluation criteria	Excellent 5	Good 4	Good 3	Satisfactory 2	Satisfactory 1	Fail
Implementation						
Compatibility between theoretical and empirical part	- theoretical part and empirical part complement each other and are in dialogue, implementation builds very strongly on background material	- theoretical part and empirical part complement each other, implementation builds strongly on background material	- theoretical part and empirical part are connected, implementation builds on background material	- different parts of thesis are partly disconnected, e.g. implementation does not build much on background material	- theoretical part and empirical part are not connected with each other, background material does not support implementation	- there is no empirical part and/or no implementation
Definition of research and development task	- purpose, task and problem are very clearly defined and well reasoned - main and interim objectives of development project and	- purpose, task and problem are clearly defined and reasoned - main and interim objectives of development project are well defined,	- purpose, task and problem expressed clearly but with limited explanation - main objectives of development project are well defined, interim objectives	- purpose, task and problem are expressed unclearly and/or insufficiently - main and interim objectives of development project and schedule are	- purpose, task and problem remain unclear - main and interim objectives of development project and schedule are defined very unclearly	- purpose, task and problem remain unclear and/or research problem is missing - purpose and project implementation plan are missing - research and

	<p>schedule are clearly defined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - definitions are clear and reasoned 	<p>schedule is defined</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - definitions are clear and reasoned 	<p>and/or schedule defined unclearly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - definitions are clear but not reasoned 	<p>defined unclearly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - definitions are unfinished 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - there are no definitions - student does not comply with schedule 	<p>development project is not connected with field of study</p>
<p>Selection and applicability of research and development methods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - research and development methods are selected very successfully in relation to objectives - choice of methods is explained logically and critically - methods are in optimal proportion to available resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - research and development methods are selected successfully in relation to objectives - choice of methods is explained clearly and critically - available resources are well taken into consideration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - selection of research and development methods in general is appropriate - common arguments for choice of methods - methods are reasonably well proportioned to available resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - selection of research and development methods is only partially successful - choices are explained superficially or insufficiently - methods are not proportioned to available resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - selection of research and development methods is rather unsuccessful - explanation for choice of methods is missing or faulty - methods are not proportioned to available resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - selection of research and development methods is unsuccessful - methods are neither illustrated nor explained - methods conflict with available resources
<p>Command of research and development methods</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - student masters research and development methods and applies them successfully - student shows independence, initiative and responsibility in all stages of R&D project - collection of material is very careful and explained in detail - data is analysed creatively and critically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - student masters selected research and development methods - student shows responsibility and fair amount of initiative in different stages of R&D project - data is collected and analysed in a careful and reasoned manner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - student masters selected methods rather well and applies them correctly - student shows responsibility and proceeds according to schedule - data is collected and analysed carefully 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - application of methods is insecure - student proceeds according to R&D plan but needs a lot of support from supervisors - data is collected insufficiently or explained unclearly - implementation of methods is insecure - data is analysed incoherently and illogically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - application of methods and description of implementation is illogical - student has great difficulties in managing R&D project - development project is carried out up to the planned stage - data is collected insufficiently or explained unclearly - data is analysed very illogically 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - management of methods is insufficient - development project is not completed or does not proceed to the planned stage due to reasons related to student or proceeds into wrong direction due to student's inability to project management - data is inadequate

Implementation of development project	- development proposals and plan are clearly based on research results - development project is launched and implemented in accordance with objectives - stages of development process, related solutions and results are explained comprehensively and analytically	- development proposals and plan are clearly based on research results - development project is launched and implemented almost in accordance with objectives - stages of development process, related solutions and results are explained carefully	- development proposals and plan are based on research results - development project is launched but its implementation does not meet objectives - stages of development process, related solutions and results are explained in general terms	- connection between development proposals and research results is partly unclear - development project has been planned and preparations are made for its launch - stages of development process, related solutions and results are explained in general terms	- connection between development proposals and research results is unclear - development project has been planned but its launch has failed - stages of development process, related solutions and results are explained insufficiently	- no connection between development proposals and research results - development plans are unfinished - progress of development process remains unclear
Process description	- process is described comprehensively and clearly justified	- process description makes the process more easily understandable	- process description is appropriate	- process description is superficial	- process description does not illustrate process sufficiently	- there is no process description
Evaluation criteria	Excellent 5	Good 4	Good 3	Satisfactory 2	Satisfactory 1	Fail
Significance of results for development of professional practice						
Significance for development of professional practice	- results enable development of practices - it is justifiable to announce results e.g. in professional publications	- results can be used for developing work practices - results focus on organisation where thesis was prepared	- results bring out shortcomings in work practices and lead to further studies	- results are rather insignificant for development of professional practice	- results are rather insignificant for development of professional practice	- results do not lead to development of professional practice
Output	- output is innovative and groundbreaking	- output demonstrates familiarity with professional practice and work processes	- output is useful in a rather narrow sector	- output needs to be further developed	- output is finished but insufficient for starting development activities	- output remains unfinished
Conclusions and discussion	- conclusions and discussion include	- conclusions are clear and in line	- conclusions are concise but in the	- conclusions are superficial	- conclusions and discussion are	- conclusions are missing

	realistic and critical statement about project's possibilities to influence development of professional practice	with progress of work - discussion invokes ideas about development	right direction - insufficient reasoning in discussion section	- discussion is superficial	insufficient	
Evaluation criteria	Excellent 5	Good 4	Good 3	Satisfactory 2	Satisfactory 1	Fail
Reporting						
Written expression	- fluent, understandable and correct factual text - report structure is very clear, balanced and logical - illustrations are appropriate - references and list of references fully comply with instructions	- fluent, understandable and correct factual language - report structure is clear and logical - illustrations are appropriate - references and list of references comply with instructions	- fluent, understandable and fairly correct language - report structure is clear - most illustrations are appropriate - references and list of references are mostly made correctly	- mostly correct factual language - report structure is mainly clear - references are partly vague	- major deficits in language - report structure is illogical - use of terminology is insecure - references are partly vague	- text progresses illogically - report has no logical structure - plenty of incorrect language use - sentence structures are clumsy and not in line with grammar rules - references are insufficient and faulty
Layout	- layout is very clean and complies with thesis instructions	- layout is clean and complies with thesis instructions	- layout mostly complies with thesis instructions	- layout deviates a lot from thesis instructions	- layout is unfinished and does not comply with thesis instructions	- layout does not comply with thesis instructions