

WRITING A BACHELOR THESIS (B.SC.) AT THE ENDOWED CHAIR OF PROCUREMENT

– Sample topics –

Fall 2016

The Endowed Chair of Procurement offers three types of Bachelor thesis topics:

- A. **Literature review:** Summarizing, structuring, and critically reviewing the existing literature on a specific topic.
- B. **Conceptual research:** Developing a framework or model for a specific research question based on a given theory or theories.
- C. **Exploratory empirical research:** Exploring a specific research phenomenon by using literature as well as primary (interviews) and secondary (e.g., databases, internet) data sources.

1. Research Field “Risk and Disruptions”

- Credit risk models for supplier portfolios with default risk [B]
- Financial distress of suppliers: Causes, management, and consequences [A, C]
- Risks of global sourcing: Offshoring and fluctuating exchange rate risks [A]
- Supply chain risk disclosure in annual reports [C]

2. Research Field “Buyer-supplier Relationships”

- The role of trust in low-cost country sourcing [A or B]
- Conflicts in buyer-supplier relationships [A, B, C]
- An analysis of contracts and their applications in purchasing [A or B]

3. Research Field “Innovation and Entrepreneurship”

- Supplier innovation: What do we know and what do we need to know? [A]
- Supplier innovation push: Analysis of the determinants influencing supplier’s willingness to share innovative ideas with specific customers [A, B, or C]
- New ventures as suppliers to established buying firms [A or C]

4. Research Field “Sustainability”

- Implementing sustainability activities in the upstream supply chain [A or C]
- Management of complexity and traceability to facilitate sustainable sourcing [A or C]

- The relationship between sustainable procurement and firm performance [A or B]

5. Research Field “Strategies and Performance”

- Decision-making in response to environmental change: Wait or act? [A or B]
- Advanced analytics in procurement: A survey of concepts and application domains [A or B]