

Master thesis: a directional overview



Typical process based on applying end of year

| Milestones | Expectations | Dates | | |
|-----------------------|--|---|--|--|
| Application | Targeted thesis submission date Prerequisite courses One-page topic outline | December | | |
| Topic definition | Precise research question (often takes several weeks) Road to the answer (prelim. Table of Contents) | By March | | |
| Official registration | Mutual understanding of scope Table of contents Exposée + prelim. literature Submission of thesis any day within 20 weeks of registration | 1. March (recommended) | | |
| Thesis colloquium | 15 min presentation15 min Q&A | TBD (1-2 dates per semester; candidate presents once) | | |
| Submission | 50 pages (+/-5) Appendix (as applicable) References | July | | |

I. Colloquium presentation

Recommend about 10 slides for presentation; directional structure

- Context (1 slide)
- Literature and gap (3 slides)
- Methods (3 slides)
- Prelim. output, if any (2 slides)
- Questions for audience (1+ slides)

15 min Q&A – passive supervisor

II. Master thesis

50 pages (+/- 5) in 12 pt font, 1.5 spacing; directional structure*

- Introduction
- Theory
 - Unanswered scientific question(s)
 - Possibly hypotheses
 - <u>Not</u> a literature review
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
 - Theoretical implications
 - Practical implications
 - Limitations
- Conclusion
- Appendix (e.g., literature overview, non-core data)
- References

*Roughly: 1/3 Theory, 1/3 Methods and Results, 1/3 Intro and Discussion and Conclusion

Don't

- **1.** Follow imprecise research question
- 2. Pursue a question purely from a practitioner standpoint
- 3. Review literature for too long
- 4. Use methods that can't answer the question
- 5. Commit late to paper
- 6. Miss actively soliciting feedback
- 7. Misallocate time (e.g., references)
- 8. Be too complex

Resources to get started

RSITY OF MANNHEIM Business Schc

MAN 721 Research Seminar Organization and Innovation

6 ECTS



Guideline for the Preparation of Scientific Papers and Theses

(Status: June 2016)

Chair of Organization and Innovation

Prof. Dr. Karin Hoisl, MBR

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| ▼ MY GROUPS | | • @ | Author | Year Title | Rating | Journal | | | Year 2013 | | |
| III AoM Symposium | 199 | 2013 Forming and Exploiting Opportunities: The Implications of Discovery an Organization Science | | | | | | | | | |
| AoM Symposium | 17 | 20 genderizeR: gender prediction based on first names. R package version 1.2.0. | | | | | | | Title Forming and Exploiting Opportunities: The implications of Discovery and Creation Processes for Entrepreneurial | | |
| CE-JBV | 61 | • | | 1985 Innovation: Mapping the winds of creati | | Research | | | and Organizational Research | | |
| Circulation | 7 | • | | 2008 Competitive Response to Radical Prod | | | f Marketing | | Journal | | |
| Incentives-OrgSci | 85 | Acker, Joan 1990 Hierarchies, jobs, bodies: A theory of gendered organizations Gender and Society | | | | Organization Science | | | | | |
| | 3 | Acur, N.; Kandemir, D.; De W 2010 Exploring the impact of technological competence development on spe Journal of Product Innovation Management on Spe | | | | f Product Innovation Manageme | int | Volume | | | |
| ML_References | | | | | Journal o | Journal of knowledge management | | and a succession of the second s | | | |
| III NEJM | 29 | Adler, Paul; Heckscher, Cha 2011 Building a collaborative enterprise Adler, Paul S. 2001 Market, Hierarchy, and Trust: The Knowledge Economy and the Future | | Harvard business review | | | | | | | |
| III Olav-Teams | 56 | | | ledge Economy and the Future | Organization Science | | | 1 | | | |
| PLOS | 29 | • | Adler, Paul S; Clark, Kim B | 1991 Behind the learning curve: A sketch of | he learning process | Managem | nent Science | | Parent . | | |
| Science | 31 | • | Adler, Paul S.; Goldoftas, Ba | 1999 Flexibility Versus Efficiency? A Case S | udy of Model Changeovers in th | Organizat | tion Science | | Pages 301-317 | | |