

Thesis Regulations Master's Program

Science and Technology Studies. Economies, Governance, Life

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Study regulations for the STS Master

The study regulations for the STS Master are available on the website of the examination office (Prüfungsamt Geistes-, Kultur- und Sportwissenschaften):

<https://www.pgks.de/faecher/science-and-technology-studies-ab-ws-2017-18-masterfb9-version-2015/> (German only)

The relevant points in English translation

From the study regulations

III.4 Master thesis

1. The thesis counts for 25 CP; the length of a thesis is 15,000 words, not including bibliography, footnotes or endnotes and essential appendices. A candidate is expected to complete the work and submit it for examination within five months.
2. Admission to the master's thesis requires proof of modules M5, M6 and M7.
3. If the equivalence of a degree for access to the Master's course has been granted in accordance with I.2.1 Paragraphs 2, 3 and 4, admission to the Master's thesis requires proof that the full requirements (30 CP) have been met.
4. The grade of the master's final module is calculated to two thirds from the grade of the master's thesis and to one third from the grade for the oral defense of the master thesis (thesis defense). For the thesis defense, the regulations explained in Part III.3 Paragraph 2 are applicable.

Requirements

The thesis is a written report about a research project which has been conducted independently by a student under the guidance of a thesis supervisor. The thesis should demonstrate that the student is capable of:

- studying and evaluating the relevant literature in his/her academic discipline;
- formulating a research plan;
- conducting research in an academically acceptable manner and reporting on research in a way that satisfies the specified requirements of the academic discipline;
- thinking in a critical and creative way;
- correct formulation.

The thesis must include the following elements:

- a research question;
- a justification for the theoretical framework used for conducting the research, as well as an outline of the used methodology;
- a critical review and evaluation of the literature relevant to the research question;
- an independent contribution by the student, e.g. providing a distinct interpretation, a scholarly discussion of the research to date for the specific research area, publishing new facts and details or
- developing a new theoretical insight;
- substantiated conclusions with regard to the research question;
- a consistently applied style with regard to referencing and bibliographical details.

Structure / Table of Content (example)

Introduction

Research Setting

- Explaining the „Field“
- Research Question
- Methods

Literature Review / Theoretical Framing

- Subchapter
- Subchapter
- Discussion: relevant concepts for the thesis

Empirical Analysis

- Subchapter
- Subchapter
- Subchapter

Discussion of findings

Conclusion

Style Guide

please consult with your supervisor if another style is preferred!

Harvard Citation Style. See for example:

https://otago.libguides.com/citation_styles/Harvard?_ga=2.34448673.1828247153.1613558560-520509216.1613558560

Layout

- 1,5 line spacing, left-aligned
- Times New Roman or Arial, size 12
- Number your pages

Cover Page

The thesis must include a cover page which must display the following elements:

Title of your work

Subtitle of your work

Goethe-University Frankfurt

Institute of Cultural Anthropology and European Ethnology

Science and Technology Studies: Economies, Governance, Life

Semester

Master Thesis ([word count] words)

1st Reviewer: [name of first examiner]

2nd Reviewer:[name of second examiner]

Submitted by: [student's name]

Matriculation number: [matriculation number]

eMail: s0000000@stud.uni-frankfurt.de Date

of submission:

Please note: the use of the university logo and / or pictures on the title page is NOT PERMITTED!

Registration for the Master's thesis

After agreeing on who will be the advisor and second reviewer of your MA thesis, you have to register the thesis with its final title at the examination office (Prüfungsamt Geistes-, Kultur- und Sportwissenschaften)

<https://www.pgks.de/>

Anyone who is or has been teaching in the STS master program can supervise your MA thesis. However, if the first advisor is not a professor at the university's faculty 09, the second reviewer must come from this group.

According to examination regulations, there is a 5 (five) months thesis processing time.

How to Submit a Master's Thesis

Please submit

- 3 (three) paper copies to the examination office (Prüfungsamt Geistes-, Kultur- und Sportwissenschaften) <https://www.pgks.de/>
- and one digital copy to each of the reviewers (PDF, per email).

Declaration of Authorship

Please include in the Declaration of Authorship at the end of your master thesis. Here is the template:

Declaration of Authorship I hereby certify that the thesis I am submitting is entirely my own original work except where otherwise indicated. I am aware of the University's regulations concerning plagiarism, including those regulations concerning disciplinary actions that may result from plagiarism. Any use of the works of any other author, in any form, is properly acknowledged at their point of use. Frankfurt am Main, [date] [signature] Name
