

# Guidelines for the Master's Thesis

The TFM (Trabajo de Fin de Máster or Master's Thesis) is an essential component of a master's degree, marking the program's final stage. It requires in-depth research and the practical application of skills and knowledge gained throughout the academic journey. This project provides an opportunity for students to showcase their capabilities in conducting independent research, consolidating information, and offering novel contributions to their area of specialization.

## Useful aspects for the development of the TFM

1. **Defense: To Be Announced (TBA):** It will be held in June-July. The exact date and time of the defense will be communicated later. This session is where you'll present your research and findings.
2. **Submission: ~2 weeks before the defense (TBA):** Your work must be submitted around 2 weeks prior to the defense date, which is yet to be determined. Adhering to this deadline is important for a timely review and preparation for the defense.
3. **Submission via Sigma:** The submission should be made through [sigma.uc3m.es](https://sigma.uc3m.es), which automatically conducts plagiarism checks. Ensure that your work is original and includes proper referencing.
4. **Length: around 4000-5000 words:** The submission should be about 4000-5000 words, aiming for thorough coverage of the topic while being concise. Reports must adhere to the official UC3M template, which can be found [here](#).
5. **Code and data in a public repository, linked in the paper:** Store all code and data used in your analysis in a public repository, like GitHub, and include a link to this in your paper. This ensures transparency and allows for replication of your work.
6. **Replicable analysis:** Your analysis should be reproducible, meaning others should be able to replicate your findings using your provided code and data. This implies the use of **open source tools**. This is essential for validating the credibility and reliability of your research.

## About the tutoring process

1. **Tutor assignment:** The management will assign a tutor taking into account the project's subject matter and, as far as possible, tutoring preferences.
2. **Tutoring period:** The supervision of the TFM will be carried out throughout the second term and will end on the official date of delivery of the work of the first call (June-July). However, students who present the TFM in the second call may agree with their tutor for a final review of the work before it is delivered.

3. **Work dynamics:** The dynamics of work tutorials will be agreed individually between tutor and student, but should consist of a minimum of four meetings for the evaluation of work in progress. These meetings may be online or face-to-face depending on how the tutor and supervisee agree. In order to submit the work for public defence, the student must have gone through the tutoring process. Under no circumstances will it be accepted to hand in work that has not been supervised throughout the course (minimum of four individual tutorials).