

Technology campus Gent

Master thesis ELICT

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Master thesis: learning objectives

Students need to prove that they can autonomously (possibly in team of 2) **thoroughly** deepen a problem.

It is thereby essential that the students make a sufficiently relevant **own contribution** based on a **critical scientific attitude** to the realization of the assignment.

In text and presentation: **show** your readers— public that you succeeded in the above mission!

Approach: our recommendations



- Maintain a regular working intensity
(20 SP=500-600 hours, hence min. 17h/week during 30 weeks)
- At the beginning spend sufficient effort to:
 - Gather relevant information regarding the assignment and subject (literature study, experts...)
 - Plan the work and define milestones
- Critically assess the information you gather as well as your own work
- Adopt a proactive attitude

Evaluation of the master thesis

- Process (40%) – by advisors/supervisors

- Process – working attitude (15/40)

Approach and planning, Punctuality, Taking initiative and autonomy, Communication, Functioning in team, Effort and motivation

- Process – methodology & result (25/40)

Analysis of the assignment, Gather and process information, attention to the broader context, quality of the working method, quality of the end-result, critical analysis, personal contribution

- Thesis text (30%) – by advisors/supervisors/reading committee

- Text – formal (1/3)

- Text – content & product (2/3)

- Presentation (30%) – by jury members

- Presentation & defense - form (1/3)

- Presentation & defense – content & product (2/3)

Guidance



<https://iiw.kuleuven.be/studenten/masterproef>

- Coaching and supporting
- Clear agreements: student's responsibility, keep us posted!
- Student to become the 'specialist'
- Each supervisor can apply a preferred follow-up system

Administration – insurance for master thesis out of KU Leuven

Fill in and print 3 copies of the applicable form:

- 1 for the company,
- 1 for the student,
- 1 for KU Leuven – Master thesis coordinator

Key deadlines:

Defense in June (January)



- First planning: 3rd week academic year (ends Oct. 13th)
- Description of the assignment: November 4th

Second information session: March 3rd, 2020

- Poster + abstract and title: 27th April 2020 (December 3rd 2019)
- Submit the thesis - digital: Monday May 18th 2020 (January 20th 2020)
- Defense: end June 2020 (end January 2020)

Description of the assignment (‘opdrachtoomschrijving’)

What's
the
plan?

- In the description of your master thesis you summarize on **one page** the following elements:
 - Positioning of the thesis. Sketch the *context* and the *problem statement* in an appealing manner, such that it can also attract interest from non-experts.
 - Formulation of the objectives. You formulate a few very concrete objectives you want to realise in your thesis. This can be a list-format..
 - Planning. Make a work plan. Divide your work in work packages and define a few key milestones. Take into account dependencies between tasks.
- Discuss this description with your supervisors.
- **Submission:**
 - Via Toledo in your Master-thesis community.



Documents to submit

Poster (EP2: 27th Apr. 2020, EP1: 3rd Dec. 2019): Deliver to the secretariat (A3-format) printed

Text including scientific article (EP2: May 18th 2020, EP1: Jan. 20th 2020)

- Digital submission via KU Loket is obligatory (control on plagiarism!)
- Printed books:
 - 1 printed copy to deliver to the secretariat within one week of the electronic submission
 - Agree with your supervisor(s) on extra printed copies
- Take into account **X (>1) weeks** to get the text reviewed by supervisor/advisor
(X = function (student, advisor) -> in agreement)
- Start the writing on time

Presentation

Per individual master thesis: 20 min. presentation + 15 min questions by the jury (30 min + 20 min for duo-thesis)

Content:

- Objective/research question + problem positioning
- Approach/method
- Results achieved
- Conclusion (focus own contribution) and future R&D
 - Check your presentation for language/spelling mistakes
 - Train you presentation – not too long, neither too short
 - In case of demonstration, consider making a movie as a back up

Luck is where opportunity
meets preparation
Seneca

Best of luck!