

# Grading rules for bachelor's and master's theses defended at the Institute of Computer Science of University of Tartu

## Components of the grade

Thesis is graded according to the following four criteria:

1. Content (exhaustiveness of the review of the previous work on the topic, depth of the research, versatility, novelty of the results, quality of the material, quality of the software)
2. Level of complexity (comparative assessment of the results, points of view, overall complexity of the work, amount of processed materials)
3. Appearance (language, technical realization, compliance with the requirements)
4. Presentation at the defence

**The opponent makes a suggestion regarding the first three criteria.** Defense committee evaluates the presentation (the fourth criterion) and approves or changes each of the first three.

When reviewing a thesis the opponent should fill in the following table:

Criterion	Justification	Grade in the Likert scale
Content	exhaustiveness of the review of the previous work on the topic, depth of the research, versatility, novelty of the results, quality of the material, quality of the software	
Level of complexity	comparative assessment of the results, points of view, overall complexity of the work, amount of processed materials	
Appearance	language, technical realization, compliance with the requirements	

## Grading scale

Each criterion is graded separately in the Likert scale as follows:

- 5** : Very good
- 4** : Good
- 3** : Barely acceptable
- 2** : Poor
- 1** : Very poor

Grade 1 (very poor) in any of the criteria immediately results in F (fail) as a final grade.

## Explanation of the scale

Grade 1 (very poor) should be used in special cases: if the thesis clearly violates the basic principles of an academic work (for example in case of plagiarism). Grade 1 in any of the criteria automatically means F (fail) as a final grade.

Grade 2 (poor) is a negative grade, it should be used if the thesis does not meet the minimal requirements for the given criterion.

Grade 3 (barely acceptable) is the lowest positive grade, which should be used in the case when the work meets the minimal requirements of the criterion, but has substantial shortcomings.

Grade 4 (good) means that the thesis is a good work without major defects.

Grade 5 (very good) requires that the work is almost flawless according to the given criterion and is outstanding in some aspect.

## Final grade

The *suggested* final grade is derived from the  $\{\text{sum of criterion points}\} \times 5$  according to the following scale:

- A** : 91–100 (excellent)
- B** : 81–90 (very good)
- C** : 71–80 (good)
- D** : 61–70 (satisfactory)
- E** : 51–60 (pass)
- F** : 50 or less (fail)