



Module description for Module 11: Master thesis

Module title, ECTS credits (and possibly STADS code) <i>Master thesis, 30 ECTS</i>
Location <i>4th semester. The semester generally takes place in the Spring. However for students with individual arrangements i.e. commencing their studies in February rather than September, the 4th semester and hence module 11 will take place in the fall.</i>
Module coordinator <i>Jacob Rubæk Holm</i>
Type and language <i>Type: Project.</i> <i>Language: English</i>
Objectives <i>The master thesis must document the student's ability to work with scientific theories and methods within a delimited topic based on central areas of knowledge, innovation, entrepreneurial dynamics and economic dynamics. The thesis must consider theoretical-empirical problems, e.g. in collaboration with a firm or organization, or purely theoretical-methodical problems. The topic must be approved by the study board and, considering its degree of complexity and scope, it must be possible to complete within one semester.</i> <i>An English summary has to be included. The summary, which has to be at a minimum of 1 page and a maximum of 2 pages, is not included in minimum or maximum number of pages decided for the thesis. The summary is included in the overall assessment of the thesis.</i>
Learning outcomes <i>After a successful completion of the thesis work the student will possess:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>knowledge of</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Relevant empirical and/or theoretical problems within the key areas of the study programme.</i>○ <i>Methods and theories for analysing problems within the key areas of the study programme.</i>• <i>skills to</i><ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>Identify and define a relevant research question and conduct a scientific analysis within one or more key areas of the study programme</i>○ <i>Apply relevant theories and methods in a profound manner and critically reflect upon the applied theories, methods, and empirical material forming the basis for the analysis</i>○ <i>Analyse and critically assess relevant existing approaches, concepts and research related to the thesis' research question</i>○ <i>Reflect upon alternative theoretical and methodological analytical approaches of relevance for the thesis' research question</i>○ <i>Construct strategies for solutions related to the specific research questions</i>○ <i>Evaluate the results and discuss implications</i>○ <i>Provide a written and oral academic presentation of the research question, methods,</i>

analysis and conclusions.

- *competencies to*
 - *initiate, conduct and conclude problem oriented research*
 - *coordinate own resources for solving complex and interdisciplinary professional problems*
 - *take responsibility for individual professional development and specialization*
 - *manage complex research and develop necessary solutions to professional problems as they arise*

Academic content and conjunction with other modules/semesters

The Master thesis is the final outcome of the study programme. The theories and methods learned in earlier modules are combined in a research project that allows the students to demonstrate their command of the theories and methods.

The module is the epitome of problem based learning. A well-executed study – with an interesting research question, strong theoretical bases and sound methodological handy work – can produce new knowledge of interest to the wider society outside of the university.

Scope and expected performance

Students must expect that the module is equivalent to 6 months full time work

General supervision norms including meeting with students, preparation for meetings and the examination:

- *Individual: 20 hours*
- *Group of 2: 30 hours*
- *Group of 3: 35 hours*
- *Group of 4: 40 hours*

Page maximum in actual A4-size pages:

- *Individual: 75-100 pages (excl. summary, appendix, reference list and table of content)*
- *Group of 2: 125 pages (excl. summary, appendix, reference list and table of content)*
- *Group of 3: 150 pages (excl. summary, appendix, reference list and table of content)*
- *Group of 4: 175 pages (excl. summary, appendix, reference list and table of content)*

Participants

MIKE-E and MIKE-B students

Prerequisites for participation

All exams from 1st, 2nd and 3rd semester have to be passed (in rare cases exemptions can be made)

Module activities

The module coordinator will organise a meeting in January where students are informed about the “thesis contract”. Prior to this meeting a short preliminary subject formulation and group composition have to be emailed to the module coordinator. (For students with individual arrangements this takes place in August rather than January). Allocation of supervisor takes place subsequently.

The “thesis contract” is available on moodle. It specifies a binding date for submission of the thesis.

The formal regulation states: that

- *The university approves the subject, sets a date for submission and provides supervision (§21, part 6).*
- *If the thesis is not submitted within the time frame it is to be considered as an exam failure (§21, part 7)*

A thesis outline has to be submitted along with the thesis contract. The outline (around 2 pages) includes:

- *Working title (the same as stated on the contract)*
- *Research question / problem formulation*
- *Theoretical framework (in short)*
- *Ideas about data*
- *Methodology*
- *Workplan*

When a supervisor has been allocated the students should schedule a meeting. At this first meeting it is beneficial to

- *make a realistic work-plan and thesis design together with your supervisor in order to keep the deadline.*
- *(for a thesis with more than one author) discuss how to state individual responsibilities. These must be stated explicitly in the final thesis. There are different ways this can be done and you should consult your supervisor or the thesis coordinator for your specific case.*

Examination

Exam

An oral external examination. The examination is based on an oral presentation and an ensuing discussion with the thesis as its point of departure. The duration of the examination is approximately one hour per student. The grading is according to the Danish 7-point marking scale. The examination weights 30 ECTS.

Evaluation criteria

The grade '12' is given for an excellent performance displaying a high level of command of all aspects of the relevant material, with no or only a few minor weaknesses. (Karakterbekendtgørelsen, § 2).