

How to Plan and Write a Master's Thesis

June 6, 2018

Anja Drautzburg, SEP

Requirements for Registration

► English Philology

In order to be permitted to register for the MA thesis, 70 credits from obligatory and elective modules from the degree course must have been completed successfully, 30 credits of which have to come from English Philology.

(Als Voraussetzung zur Zulassung zur Masterarbeit müssen Pflicht-, Wahlpflicht- und Wahlmodule des Studiengangs im Umfang von 70 C, davon im Umfang von 30 C aus dem Fachstudium der Englischen Philologie, bestanden sein.)

Step by Step

- ▶ 1. Think about a (number of) possible topic(s)
- ▶ 2. Find a (potential) supervisor
- ▶ 3. Discuss topic and second examiner with your supervisor
- ▶ 4. Register for completion module most relevant to you: M.EP.06a Anglophone Literature; M.EP.06b North American Studies; M.EP.07a Linguistics; M.EP.07b Medieval Studies

Step by Step

- ▶ 5. Register for thesis (you, your supervisor, and second examiner have to sign the form), await admission (**use form**)
- ▶ 6. Start writing your thesis once admitted
- ▶ 7. Attend completion module
- ▶ 8. Write thesis (80-100 pages) and do oral exam in completion module (near submission)
- ▶ 9. Submit thesis in written and digital form to exams office (details on information sheet)

Timeline

- ▶ You can register for the thesis anytime provided you fulfil the requirements
- ▶ After thesis registration, you have 6 months to complete the thesis but you can submit before the deadline
- ▶ The topic can be returned within the first four weeks, the title can be altered (details on information sheet)
- ▶ The thesis can be repeated **once**

Timeline

- ▶ An extension of 6 weeks can be granted but no later than 4 weeks before your submission deadline
- ▶ Bear in mind: the day you submit decides whether you stay within the standard four semester-study period
- ▶ The thesis assessment period should not exceed 8 weeks (to be discussed with supervisor if necessary)
- ▶ If you complete your degree within the first four weeks of a new semester, you can reclaim your semester fees, see *Dates and Deadlines for Students*: <https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/47743.html>

Timeline

- ▶ Result: calculated as arithmetic mean between supervisor and second examiner grades
- ▶ Examination office enters grade into FlexNow
- ▶ You can read your examiners' reviews in the examination office upon request up to one year after grade was entered into FlexNow

What's a Good Topic?

'Focus and
Research
Modules'

M.EP.09a

(Anglophone

Literature), be

interested in

your topic

Studies), and

09c

(Ideally you

have you think

attended

relevant

methodology,

lectures, and

before, and

approaches to

your studies

potential

supervisor,

make a list of

good points

and questions

to bring to

Manage Your Time

- Make a plan
- Balance research time and reflection
- Share and test ideas
- Eat and sleep regularly, see friends
- Make back-ups

Forms

Available on:

<https://www.uni-goettingen.de/en/209430.html>

- ▶ Information sheet for application for registration of MA thesis
- ▶ Requirements for registration
- ▶ Registration form for MA thesis
- ▶ Examiners of the thesis

Any questions?