

Master's Thesis regulation

The Master's Thesis (MTH) is compulsory in the Master in Wireless Communications study plan, since it is necessary in order to obtain the Master's Diploma. The Master's Thesis (MTH) represents an original engineering project or a research work on any topic included in the academic program of the master's degree. The MTH collects all the competences of the master degree.

The Master Thesis must be carried out in the context of one of the research groups of the School. This activity is accounted as 12 ECTS, resulting in a final dissertation, which consists on a written report and an public oral exposition, to be reviewed and assessed by an evaluation committee. To proceed with the defense of the final dissertation, the student must have previously passed 48 ECTS, so that the MTH is his/her last exam before obtaining the master's degree.

In addition, to get to that point, students have to previously write and submit a paper to a technical journal or to an international conference. This paper will be part of the thesis' contents.

The Master's Thesis must be an original work performed individually by the student under the guidance and supervision of a tutor, who must be professor of the School. There exists the possibility of having a MTH director from an external institution. In this latter case, the director must hold either an engineering-related degree (either as engineer, graduate, master graduate or PhD graduate) and will supervise all the technical work of the MTH, whereas the tutor will be watching that the regulations related to the MTH are duly followed.

Master's Thesis procedure

The following is a summarized description of the procedure to carry out the Master's Thesis.

Topic of the Master Thesis

- The first step is to agree with a professor of the School, who will act as the MTH tutor (or an external director + a professor of the School who will act as the MTH tutor), on a topic and the main objectives of the MTH to be carried out under his/her guidance.
- The topic of the Master Thesis must be related to some of the topics included in the academic program of the Master in Wireless Communications.
- The student candidate must collect the topic, objectives and planning of the master thesis in a brief **research plan**, no more than two pages long. This research plan will be assessed by the Master's Academic Coordination Commission. The MTH topic will be assigned to the student after obtaining a positive assessment.

Master's Thesis project

- No more than two months after the assignment of the topic and Tutor, a **Master's Thesis project** must be presented to the Academic Secretariat of the Master. This document must be signed by the student and his/her tutor (and director if applicable). It has also to be validated by the Master's Academic Coordination Commission. This document must be uploaded to the electronic platform that will be notified to the students for that purpose.
- The **Master's Thesis project** contains the main data of the Master's Thesis and has the following structure: Introduction, Objectives, Specifications, Tasks, Resources, and References. The maximum length of this project is 6 pages and must be written in English.

Master's Thesis tribunal

After the validation of the Master's Thesis project, an evaluation committee (tribunal) with three members will be established according to the next composition:

- One member of the tribunal will be the tutor of the MTH and will act as the secretary of the tribunal.
- Furthermore, the Master's Academic Coordination Commission will propose the rest of the members of the tribunal (among the professors of the Master) and will designate one of them as president.

Master's Thesis contribution to technical journal or international conference

- The student, advised by the tutor (or the director if applicable), will look for a journal or international conference where to submit an article that includes part of the work developed in the MTH.
- The tutor (or the director if applicable) will guide the student in terms of structure, approach and presentation of the contents of the paper.
- Before the MTH dissertation the article must have been at least sent to the selected journal or conference for its consideration to be published by a process of peer-reviewing.

Master's Thesis dissertation

- The student must write a manuscript or final report containing the fundamental aspects, results and contributions of his/her work (see manuscript contents below).
- The tutor must approve the MTH's manuscript before the defense, by means of a written report declaring that the objectives of the thesis has been met and remarking the achieved goals. The tutor will look for a date and place for the defense of the MTH agreed with the other members of the tribunal.
- If there is a Director, his/her approval of the final report will also be required.
- The MTH report must be written in English and must include a transcript of the technical paper previously mentioned in an Annex.
- The defense will be in-person, in front of the examining board, and must be conducted in English. In exceptional cases, the defense might take place on-line if the Academic Commission approves it.
- At least **ten working days** before the Master's Thesis exam, a PDF file with the content of the manuscript must be uploaded to the electronic platform that will be notified to the students. Besides, **three printed copies** of the manuscript must be presented to the Academic Secretariat of the Master before the MTH defense, at least one of them in hard cover. This manuscript must be signed by the student and the tutor (and director if there is one). The first page of the document has to follow the provided format in the annex.
- The **MTH defense** consists of an oral presentation, around 20 minutes long, performed in **English** by the student in front of the tribunal. At the end of the presentation, the members of the tribunal will address any question they have to the candidate. This defense is open to the public.
- The quality of the performed work, the manuscript of the thesis, the oral presentation and the submitted technical paper will determine the final mark given to the Master's Thesis.
- The Secretary of the tribunal will include the mark obtained by the student on the printed versions of the manuscript and will sign them. All the tribunal members will sign the official minutes of the exam, including the mark obtained by the student.
- One of the manuscripts (signed by the Secretary of the tribunal will be archived in the University Library

Master's Thesis manuscript contents

The MTH manuscript should follow the following structure:

- First page (compulsory, included in the Annex).
- Index
- Abstract (compulsory, its maximum length is 300 words)
- Introduction
- State of the art
- Specifications
- Description
- Results
- Conclusions
- References.

Downloadable documents

- [Research Plan](#). This document describes a proposal for a MTH topic. It will be used to describe a topic on which the tutor and the student have already agreed.
- [Master's Thesis project](#). This document is **compulsory** and has to be produced no more than two months after the assignment of the topic and Tutor.
- [First page of the MTH manuscript](#). It is **compulsory** that the very first page of the MTH manuscript follows exactly this template.
- [Master's Thesis evaluation report](#). This is the document that each member of the tribunal will be using to assess the different aspects of the MTH, in order to aid in the decision of the final mark.