

2021-2022 Addendum: Assessment guidelines for supervisors of Masters' research theses during COVID-19 crisis

2021/2022 Supervisors, please be aware of the limitations caused by COVID-19 and the corresponding effects on your student's project when grading. The criteria categories have not changed, but the content for each criteria may need adjustment. Changes per assessment item are marked below in **bold text**. Assessment adaptations outlined here are only valid for the 2019/2020 and 2021/2022 academic years, pending further ongoing COVID-19 developments and UM measures to mitigate COVID-19. Please grade each element below with these circumstances in mind. Thank you.

Writing product

Quality of abstract

Abstract is concise and accurately reflects the aims, results, discussion and conclusion of the thesis. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Introduction and description of research question/hypothesis

Research question is adequately introduced, is concrete and clear with sufficient background information. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Creativity and originality of research question

The thesis makes an original contribution to knowledge, i.e. the student himself/herself generated the research question based on the literature. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Theoretical understanding

The student demonstrates understanding of the relevant theoretical framework. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Structure and organization of the thesis

The thesis is coherent: it has a clear structure and direction, and focuses on main issues (no irrelevance). This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Critical and innovative approach to research

The student demonstrates an independent, critical and innovative approach to research. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Design and methods are conform research question

The student demonstrates ability to independently choose and apply justified methods that can answer the research question. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Understanding and description of statistical/review analysis

In standard situations, the supervisor evaluates whether the student has demonstrated understanding of the statistical analyses and described these adequately. **Due to COVID-19 in 2021/2022, projects may have been adapted to include theoretical reviews. Supervisors should evaluate whether the student demonstrated understanding of the statistical/review analyses and described these adequately to the extent possible given any project adaptations due to COVID-19 guidelines.**

Presentation and description of results

The student has presented and described the results in a correct and logical way. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Adequacy and correctness of tables and figures

Tables, figures and appendices are complete, adequate, and correct. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Ability to discuss findings in relation to literature and new insights

The student shows understanding of the significance of the results and shows the ability to discuss the results in relation to the (latest) research literature and to discuss new insights based on the results. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Conclusion follows logically from arguments developed in paper

The thesis presents well-founded conclusions drawn from the results and arguments given in the thesis. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Level of language use, citations and references

The thesis contains no such structural, grammatical or spelling errors that complicate reading. The thesis is written in a coherent, formal academic style. Citations in the text and references are correct and complete. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Publication level of thesis

The thesis in its current form is eligible for publication.

Writing process

Level of independence

The student worked very independently on the thesis. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Contribution of supervisor

The contribution of the supervisor to the thesis was minimal. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Processing of feedback

The student addressed the given feedback adequately. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.

Completion time of thesis

The thesis was completed within the prescribed time, corrected for documented delays. This assessment criterion is unchanged in 2021/2022.