

Application for master's thesis supervision

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You've reached here because you are interested in working on your thesis under my supervision. I supervise theses that involve quantitative methods. To assess whether you are ready to start your thesis and I am suitable as a supervisor, please start the process by submitting a research proposal. The evaluation of thesis proposal takes place four times a year (= four deadlines per year).

Within about ten days from the deadlines, you will hear the result of the proposal evaluation. The instructor will either (1) approve the proposal as it is, (2) approve it with quick revision, or (3) not approve the proposal.

If approved, you must sign and submit the thesis application (contract) within about 2-3 weeks from the approval – no later than that! In other words, I recommend you submit your proposal only when you are ready to start working on your thesis; otherwise, please use later proposal deadlines.

If rejected, you will receive primary reasons for rejection.

Thesis proposal

The proposal will be:

- **Maximum 2 pages.**
- **Submitted by email.**

The proposal will include:

- **Working title.** You will adjust it later when the research question is set.
- **Situation / Background of your topic.** Why should we care about the topic? What triggered you to look at this topic?
- **Main research question(s).**
- **Relevant literature(s).** Mention a few existing studies (published scholarly articles) that are relevant either because of their topic or method.
- **Data and methods.** Where do your data come from? How do you plan to analyze the data? If you are writing a formal theory (game theory) paper, what type of game theory model do you plan to use, modify, or build?

Of course, once the instructor approves the informal proposal, you will discuss these elements in detail and adjust accordingly before submitting the thesis application to the faculty/degree program.

Thesis proposal deadlines for students from the WWZ and EIB

*These dates are officially determined by the degree program coordinator at the time of thesis contracting.

	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	Track 4
Proposal submission deadline	Jan. 15	Apr. 4	Jul. 4	Oct. 4
Result of proposal evaluation	Jan. 26	Apr. 15	Jul. 15	Oct. 15
Start of the thesis contract (2-3 wks after proposal approval)	Latest Feb. 23	Latest May 6	Latest Aug. 5	Latest Nov. 5
Thesis submission (WWZ/EIB)* (15 weeks after contract)	Early/Mid-Jun.	Mid-Aug.	Mid-Nov.	Mid-Feb.
Grade submission*	Mid-Aug,	1st week of Sept.	Mid-Jan.	1st week of Feb.
Semester of graduation	Spring semester		Fall semester	

Thesis proposal deadlines for students in MSD

*These dates are officially determined by the degree program coordinator at the time of thesis contracting.

**Fall graduation is possible if you submit your thesis by August 15. In this case, the grade will be submitted in the 1st week of September.

	Track 1	Track 2	Track 3	Track 4
Proposal submission deadline	Jan. 15	Apr. 4	Jul. 4	Oct. 4
Result of proposal evaluation	Jan. 26	Apr. 15	Jul. 15	Oct. 15
Start of the thesis contract (2-3 wks after proposal approval)	Latest Feb. 23	Latest May 6	Latest Aug. 5	Latest Nov. 5
Thesis submission (MSD)* (6 months after contract)	Mid/End-Aug.	Early Nov.	Early Feb.	Early May
Grade submission*	End-Oct.**	Early Jan.	Early Apr.	Early Jul.
Semester of graduation	Spring**	Spring	Fall	Fall
Thesis submission (MSD)* (9 months after contract)	Mid/End-Nov.	Early Feb.	Early May	Early Aug.
Grade submission*	Mid/End-Jan.	Early Apr.	Early Jul.	Early Oct.
Semester of graduation	Spring	Fall	Fall	Spring