

## Information about Thesis Supervisions at the Professorship of Public Policy, Governance & Innovative Technologies

Thank you for your interest in writing your B.A. or M.A. thesis at our professorship.

### Introductory Call

We would encourage you to contact the person you would like to be supervised by via e-mail in order to discuss your field of interest and potential preliminary research ideas. Should that person be available for a supervision that semester, we suggest an introductory call to discuss your ideas and potential supervision. Should both parties agree to proceed with the process, please create and provide a research exposé. For guidelines regarding the exposé, you can find more information below under the section "Research Exposé." After the discussion of the exposé, the final agreement is made whether a supervision can be accommodated and whether the research intent matches the expertise at our professorship.

### Research Exposé

The length of the research exposé should be between 2-5 pages.

It should provide an overview of the following points:

- *Research Interest*  
What is your topic/field of interest and within which debate do you want to position your thesis? This will allow you to understand the relevance of your research interest/idea and ultimately allow you to identify a research gap in ongoing academic debates and publications.
- *Research Question*  
What is the overall research question that you are trying to answer through your thesis? Please keep in mind that the more precise your research question is, the more it will guide you through the writing process. Also, it is important to keep in mind that it should be appropriate to the workload and be in a manageable frame to answer with the foreseen lengths for B.A./M.A. theses.
- *Methodological Approach*  
How would you like to answer your research question? Do you intend to conduct a statistical analysis, a comparative study of multiple cases, or a single case

study? Please be aware that you must justify your methodological approach. Furthermore, it is important to answer whether you want to collect primary data. If so, how? Are you working solely with secondary data? Why and which one?

## **Further Material**

Should you already have more material/ bibliographies/ theories you would like to apply please feel free to include them in your research exposé. The more preliminary research you have conducted and prepared, the better we can assist in shaping the layout for the thesis.

## **Timeline**

Please keep in mind that writing a thesis requires a considerable amount of time. Therefore, we advise you to write the research exposé before registering your thesis. Generally, students have 3 months (full-time) or 4,5 months (part-time) to write a B.A. thesis after registering it and 6 months (full-time) and 12 months (part-time) to write a M.A. thesis after registering it.

## **Registration of the Thesis**

After the introductory call is conducted, and the research exposé provided to the potential supervisor and discussed, a final decision on the thesis supervision is made by the student and the supervisor. Should both parties agree to a supervision, you can officially register your thesis. You can find the document to do so on the website of the Professorship of Governance, Public Policy and Innovative Technologies.

## **Language of the Thesis**

Bachelor Thesis's can be written in English or German  
Master Thesis's must be written in English

## **Final Submission: Thesis Grading Guidelines**

Below are the general guidelines that should be followed to help ensure a successful thesis. Note that not all the criteria are included below as they can be dependent upon the chosen topic. Please discuss additional possible criteria with your thesis supervisor.

- An innovative and clearly defined research question that is stated and supported by a strong literature review that identifies research gaps and reviews all important papers.

- A research methodology that supports the research question, mentions all relevant and applicable theories, and clearly demonstrates your understanding of the appropriate application of current and innovative research methods.
- If it is a technical thesis, all code should be easy to read and should include understandable comments.
- A discussion section that analysis the research findings and results, includes connections to current literature, and provides a research outlook for the topic.
- A conclusion that critically answers the original research question and summarizes the purpose and subsequent findings of the thesis.
- General Formal Criteria:
  - Bachelor's Contains 40 pages +- 10% (*Excluding References, Tables and Graphs*)
  - Master's: Contains 60 pages +- 10% (*Excluding References, Tables and Graphs*)
  - Arial 11pt, 1.5 space with Citations as APA or Chicago

### **Submission and Grading of the Thesis**

Please submit your work via mail to the HfP Examination Office ([pruefungsverwaltung@hfp.tum.de](mailto:pruefungsverwaltung@hfp.tum.de)) and they will forward the PDF version to your supervisor. Please do not forget the declaration of consent, including the consent to the plagiarism check. Grade reports will be issued no later than 2 months after submission.

**Should you have any further questions feel free to contact a member of the team of the professorship of Public Policy, Governance & Innovative Technologies.**

### **Contact Information:**

Urs Gasser: [urs.gasser@tum.de](mailto:urs.gasser@tum.de)

Fabienne Marco: [fabienne.marco@tum.de](mailto:fabienne.marco@tum.de)

Sofie Schönborn: [sofie.schoenborn@tum.de](mailto:sofie.schoenborn@tum.de)

Noha Lea Halim: [nohalea.halim@tum.de](mailto:nohalea.halim@tum.de)

Brittany Engle: [brittany.engle@tum.de](mailto:brittany.engle@tum.de)