

MASTER IN IMMIGRATION MANAGEMENT

GENERAL GUIDELINES, INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE MASTER THESIS

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The **Master Thesis** (9 ECTS) is a compulsory course of the Master in Immigration Management. The main task of the students is to write a **Research Paper**, which may consist in two types:

- **Overview and State of the Arts** of a topic/concept: main hypothesis, arguments and approaches
- **Research Design and Plan** of a particular key-question, duly justified

The Master Thesis has to be in English and the maximum length of for both types of Research Papers should be between 10.000 and 12.000 words and include references, footnotes, appendix, table of contents, etc... (Times 12, 1.5 line spacing).

The Master Thesis has to be presented in a pdf format. Students have to send their thesis to the supervisor and upload it to the *Aula Global* (see plagiarism warning below).

The recommended structure of each type of Research Paper is as follows:

Overview and state of the arts of a topic/concept

1. **Introduction:** student's interest in the topic/concept, identification of the problem or issue to be discussed.
2. **Conceptual development:** discussion of the relevant academic literature: main hypothesis, arguments and approaches. What has been said on the subject? How (different methodologies) is has been said? What assumptions exist? What conclusions have been given?
3. **Identification of gaps** in the literature and potential future research lines.
4. **Justify** briefly how your research paper can **contribute** to social and/or social transformations?
5. The research should include an **exhaustive bibliography** on the subject. Select the 10 most relevant references for you (given at the beginning), justify why, and provide a brief description of the contents.

Research Design and Plan

1. A brief overview of the topic, a research question or questions, and the research objectives.
2. How the research can contribute to a given debate
3. The methodology
4. An outline establishing the different sections of the research
5. Justify briefly how your project can contribute to social and/or social transformations.
6. A schedule or calendar in three years (by trimester).

GENERAL INFORMATION

Supervisor assignment:

- The supervisor has to be a professor from the Master, and will be assigned during the second semester of the academic session in accordance with the student's preferences and the rules applicable to the master's degree.
- Students are required to inform the Administration Office of the type and subject matter of their thesis as well as the name of their supervisor (to be previously agreed between student and professor).
- It is possible that the student may request support of an external tutor to the master's course (either from the UPF or from a different university) or a recognised immigration expert. If that is the case, the student will have to request it justifying through a formal letter addressed to the Academic Commission.

Composition of the board and task to be performed in the oral defence:

- The student will defend the Master Thesis in front of a board composed by two members (one professor from the Master degree and another outsider).
- In the defence, students will have no more than 10 minutes to summarise their work and then they will have 5 minutes to respond to the panel's questions and comments. Students are allowed to use a power point presentation and the presentation has to be in English.
- The written thesis will be used by the members of the board as a reference for their assessment, but the grade will come solely from the oral defence. The assessment of the thesis and the oral defence are independent.

Language use: This Master Thesis has to be written in English (Spanish or Catalan or another Language must be requested in advance and justified by a formal letter).

Submission of Master Thesis: Students must hand in their master thesis to the supervisor one week before the public defence.

Public Defence: The public defence will take place at the end of June. The concrete date will be determined at least six months before (around January).

GENERAL ASSESSMENT

The supervisor will assess the work and this mark will represent 70% of the final grade, base on assessment criteria publish in the academic website of the master: (<http://www.upf.edu/immigrationmanagement/pdf/MPP-Grading-Criteria.pdf>). The supervisor will evaluate the project's added value and its contribution to the political and social area.

The oral defence of the Master Thesis will represent the 30% of the final grade. The basic aim of the public defence is to assess the capacity of the student to conduct an immigration research. Basically, the followings competencies will be assessed:

- Speaking publicly accuracy and fluency of expression
- Order what is substantial and secondary
- Ability to coherently articulate own ideas and arguments
- Openness to feedback and criticisms
- Ability to defend their arguments before an assessment panel
- Understanding of implications of immigration in the social and political arena

DEADLINES

December or January: Meeting with the coordinator to inform about the Master Thesis and the deadlines.

February: Students should hand in at the Office the registration form with the signature of the proposal supervisor.

March: Students will receive a confirmation by e-mail about the definitive supervisor and they will start working in their thesis.

June: Students have to submit the Master Thesis and upload it to the *Aula Global* (code: 2016-31134-T1 Master Degree Dissertation).

June: Public defence of the Master Thesis. Few days before of defence, the Office will send to students the members of board and the presentation timetable.

PLAGIARISM WARNING

The Department of Social and Political Sciences will not tolerate plagiarism, copying or active or passive collaboration in this type of dishonest behavior in papers written by our students. The penalty for plagiarism will be immediate failure of the course. Furthermore, the University will initiate proceedings against the student that could lead to his/her expulsion from the Master.

We consider plagiarism to be the use of someone else's words without referencing the source or including the information in quotation marks or a block quote; using someone else's ideas without referencing the source or copying papers written by other students.

MASTER THESIS SUPERVISORS 2016-2017

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|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Avi Astor | Blanca Garcés | Mariano Torcal |
| Pau Baizán | Zenia Hellgren | Aïda Torres |
| Joan Benach | Diana Mata | Juan Carlos Triviño |
| Verònica Benet | Sílvia Morgades | Camil Ungureanu |
| Xavier Ferrer | Luis Ortiz | Evren Yalaz |
| Nuria Franco | John Palmer | Ricard Zapata-Barrero |
| Lorenzo Gabrielli | Gema Rubio | |