

Master's Thesis Award Master in Migration Studies – Universitat Pompeu Fabra Guidelines

Who is eligible? Master's Thesis Award is presented to a student enrolled in Master in Migration Studies program (as expert or research profiles) during the current academic year. The award is restricted to Master's thesis only.

What are the evaluation criteria?

The Master's Thesis must exemplify original basic research skills, first research competences (General, Specific and Transversal) and learning outcomes in the field of migration studies (see the table of competences and skills below).

Substantial criteria are:

- Awareness of the significance and impact of contributions to the field of migration studies
- Quality of methodology
- Quality of writing

How does the process of selection work?

The nominations will take place after the public defense of master's theses in June. The process will follow two steps:

- First step: we will consider the three best marks of the global evaluation (supervisor mark 70% and oral defense by a specific evaluative committee, 30%). In case there are more than three eligible theses then the specific evaluative committee mark will decide).
- Second step: The Award Committee, whose members will be composed of two professors in Master in Migration Studies program and one external professor in the field will evaluate the three nominations and select one for the Award.

How will the Award be communicated?

- Once the three selected candidates have been identified, the coordinator will communicate it to the candidates.
- The winner will be notified not more than one month after the oral defense.
- The other two candidates will be informed and a certificate of being in the final list will be issued.

What are the benefits of this Award?

- This Award will not have economic compensation. It is considered as a first recognition of research skills and competences with a formal certificate.
- The award will be disseminated through appropriate websites and the possibility to submit and publish the Master thesis in GRITIM-UPF Working Paper Series (<https://www.upf.edu/web/gritim/working-series>).

CB6	The students should acquire knowledge that will constitute the basis for them to develop and apply original ideas, particularly in relation to the design and implementation of a research project or an expert study.
CB8	That students are able to integrate knowledge and face the complexity of making judgments from information that, incomplete or limited, includes reflections on social and ethical responsibilities linked to the application of their knowledge and judgments
CB9	The students should be able to communicate their conclusions and the knowledge they have acquired to both experts and non-experts in a clear and on-ambiguous fashion, using references adequately to support their arguments.
General competences	
CG 1	Capacity to express and use theoretical concepts related to migration studies.
CG 2	Ability to maintain an argumentation about topics related to migration and diversity based on an initial diagnosis of the situation and the formulation of hypotheses
CG 3	Communicate with experts from other areas in order to bring knowledge acquired and promote interdisciplinarity in the study of migrations
CG 4	Capacity to search, manage, analyze, interpret, produce and apply information related to concrete topics concerning immigration, from a thematic and sectorial point of view
CG 5	Ability to solve problems related to migration studies on a short and long term basis, applying a critical perspective
CG 6	Organize, plan and publicly defend a research plan
CG 7	Generate new ideas around a research on migration and diversity
CG 9	Capacity to work with topics related to migration guided by ethical values and empathy.
Transversal competences	
CT1	Communicate in fluent English in academic contexts, both verbally and in writing
CT2	Incorporate ethical and human values in migration research
CT3	Ensure that perspectives of social class, inequalities and discrimination are present in the student's own reflections on migration and diversity.
CT4	To keep in mind a multi-level analysis taking into account different administrations and actors involved in the governance of migrations
CT5	Promote the link between research and politics by connecting the academic knowledge acquired to political and social agendas.
CT6	Elaborate and defend a research project making use of the existing academic quality criteria
CT7	Have an open, interdisciplinary and multi-method research mindedness
Specific competences	
CE1	Identify the substantial contribution and the focus of a piece of research or study related to migration and diversity.
CE3	Know how to identify a problem in immigration and diversity, and identify the most appropriate methodology to design an investigation.
CE5	Discriminating favorable and unfavorable factors in the development and implementation of migration policies
CE6	Be able to see things from the perspective of a migrant and understand the particularities of the migrant's life conditions.
CE7	Use the analytical levels Macro/Meso/Micro and top-down versus bottom-up perspectives
CE8	Identify the variables that explain the migratory dynamics, both in the level of human flows and in the level of accommodation of diversity
Learning outcomes	
RA1	Describe in detail the main trends of human mobility, migration policies and their social repercussions and theoretical foundations
RA2	Explain some of the main processes of social transformation migration-related and the needs for diversity management
RA3	Demonstrates the management of qualitative methods and their variety of techniques, as well as their processes of evaluation and analysis of results, directly related to immigration and diversity
RA4	It extracts the relevant quantitative information produced by international and national organisms for the analysis of migratory phenomena
RA5	Design and plan a piece of research based on the definition of a problem related to immigration and diversity at the conceptual, theoretical and empirical level.
RA6	Evaluate and interpret the main theoretical and empirical scholarly and scientific debates that exist in Europe on migratory studies.