

Information about the master's thesis (PhilTeR)

(based on the guidelines for the study and examination regulations of the Theological Faculty of the University of Lucerne for the master's program in *Philosophy, Theology and Religions (PhilTeR)*)

Requirements

- Immatriculation
- For the student to successfully complete the program, all prerequisites (passed papers and quizzes) must be met.
- Supervision of the master's thesis by a professor who represents the Master PhilTeR

Course

The student must contact the first supervisor to agree on the supervision and a topic. She/he must notify the master coordinator that a supervisor and topic have been agreed upon. Once the supervisors and topics have been agreed upon, the tutors will have a meeting to assign the second reviewer for each thesis.

Objective

The master's thesis should demonstrate the ability to carry out independent scientific work and present scientific facts in a linguistically correct manner, as well as a certain degree of independence in dealing with a specific and concrete question.

Time frame

The topic and structure of the master's thesis must be discussed with the supervisor no later than six months before the expected deadline. The thesis should be manageable within the deadline.

Formal requirements

- Number of pages: 80-100
- Recommended font: Arial 11 pt, or Times New Roman 12 pt
- Recommended line spacing: 1,5
- Recommended margins: left ca. 4 cm, right ca. 3 cm
- Number of characters: (including spaces) per page: average 2500-3000
- The cover sheet must contain the following information: Name of the University, Faculty, MA program, title of the thesis, supervisor, author, student number, email address, submission date.
- Quoting and paraphrasing: Please use the *Chicago Manual of Style Guide* for footnotes and endnotes. Place a superscript number after the source to indicate that a source has been used, both for quotations and for paraphrased material. This superscript number will refer a reader to the bottom of the page (for the footnote) or to the end of the document (for the endnote).

Submission of the thesis

- The master's thesis must be submitted to the dean's office in electronic form (as a PDF file, by email to tf@unilu.ch).
- Deadline: spring semester: 31.05./autumn semester: 30.11.
- The student must submit a signed declaration of originality when submitting the master's thesis.

Assessment

The grade for the master's thesis is based on the average of the first and second reviews.

Publication

The master's thesis can only be published by the author with a written consent from the supervisor and in compliance with the requirements of her/him.

Defense of the master's thesis

The master's examination lasts 30 minutes and is graded as "pass" or "fail". During the master's examination, the student has 10-15 minutes to present and defend the main arguments of his or her master's thesis. This is followed by a scholarly discussion of around 10-15 minutes. The sole basis of the discussion is the presentation and the submitted master's thesis.

The examination takes place in the presence of the two supervisors and a tutor. The tutor keeps a record of the course of the examination.