

Master's thesis in Economics at the University of Mannheim¹

Module combinations "Economics" and "Competition and Regulation Economics Track (CaRE)"

Characteristic	Conventional master's thesis
ECTS	30
Processing time	4 months
Start requirements	The master's thesis cannot be started before the fourth semester. In addition the candidate has to have earned at least 45 ECTS credits in the specialization phase and successfully attended at least one seminar. For students in the CaRE Track an adequate attendance of the "Mannheim Competition Policy Forum" is required.
Subjects	The master's thesis can be written in any of the following subjects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Economics - Statistics and econometrics - Economic history - Economic geography
Topic	After choosing one of the subjects, the candidate is assigned a topic by the supervisor. The candidate may also suggest a topic. The topic has to be registered (see "Registration")
Supervision	<p>Only professors, junior professors, and affiliated professors can be supervisors for Master's theses.</p> <p>They may issue or accept a topic suggested by a student and have to make sure that topic, problem and scope can be dealt with in the scheduled processing time.</p> <p>They supervise the student during the process of writing the thesis and assess the thesis after submission.</p> <p>They can require the candidate to attend an accompanying master's colloquium.</p>
Registration	<p>As soon as a topic is agreed on between student and supervisor the topic has to be registered. There is a registration form available from the website and the Program Management: econgrad@uni.mannheim.de.</p> <p>The original registration has to be sent to the Student Services (Studienbüro I) and a copy to the Program Management.</p>
Change of topic	The topic may be returned once within the first four weeks of the processing time. A new topic has to be assigned/chosen and registered anew (see "Registration"). The processing time starts again with the new registration.
Prolongations	<p>In exceptional and justified cases the examination committee may grant a deadline extension of a maximum of 4 weeks. A written permission from the Examination Board is required!</p> <p>With a written approval of the supervisor the candidate needs to file an application for extension to the examination committee. The last possible date for filing this application is one week before the end of the original processing time.</p>

¹ This is NOT a legally binding document. It is a short summary of the relevant regulations from the "[Examination Regulations](#)" of the master's program in economics.

<p>Guidelines Master theses</p>	<p>Please refer to the „Guidelines for the Bachelor thesis“. These guidelines intend to define basic rules and requirements for submitting a scientific paper as agreed upon by most of the senior and junior faculty members at the Mannheim Department of Economics.</p> <p>Please make sure to talk to your supervisor about any possible deviation from or extension of these rules concerning your particular thesis project.</p>
<p>Declaration of Academic Integrity</p>	<p>The master’s thesis has to include an appendix containing all sources used. Additionally, a written assurance has to be added stating that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The work has been done independently and without the use of other sources except for those listed in the appendix. - All passages which are directly or indirectly taken from external sources are labeled as such. - The work has not been presented in this or a similar form to any examination authority before. <p><i>Example: “With this statement I, [name], declare that I have independently completed this master’s thesis entitled “[title]” and have not used any other sources than those indicated in the thesis. All thoughts and illustrations that are taken directly or indirectly from external sources are properly marked as such. The thesis has not been submitted in this or a similar form to any other academic institution.”</i></p>
<p>Submission</p>	<p>The finalized master’s thesis has to be submitted in duplicate to the supervisor. The date of submission has to be put on record.</p> <p>One of the two duplicates handed in to the supervisor should then be forwarded to the Student Services. The examination board may require an additional electronic copy.</p>
<p>Assessment</p>	<p>The master’s thesis is assessed by the supervisor of the thesis. The assessment is made according to the “assessment of exams” part. In case of failure (5.0) a second assessor has to be designated by the examination board. If the two assessments differ, the final grade is calculated as the arithmetic mean of the two individual grades (and rounded to the nearest available grade of the grading system). In case of doubt the better grade has to be assigned. Submitting late automatically leads to “failed” (5.0) without consulting a second assessor.</p> <p>The candidate should be informed about the grade he/she received for the master’s thesis no later than two month after submission.</p> <p>The following grades are used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.0 (very good) 2.0 (good) 3.0 (satisfactory) 4.0 (fair) 5.0 (failed) <p>For further differentiation of the assessment the value 0.3 can be added or subtracted from the grade. However, the grades 0.7, 4.3, 4.7 and 5.3 are not in use.</p> <p>The minimum grade for passing the master’s thesis is 4.0. If passed, the candidate earns the amount of ECTS credits assigned to the master’s thesis.</p>
<p>Re-takes</p>	<p>A failed master’s thesis can be re-taken once. When re-taking the master’s thesis a new topic is issued. A passed master’s thesis cannot be re-taken.</p>