

Rating of the Bachelor or Master Thesis

The Bachelor Thesis is the endpoint of the studies at the university. Within the thesis the student should demonstrate the ability to generate a scientific work.

As each problem is different and everybody has different strength and weaknesses it is not possible to rate a thesis and a diploma work schematically. However it is possible to specify criteria for the rating of a thesis.

Most important is the scientific approach which is always the same independent to the problem.

This approach consists of

- Identification and characterisation of a problem
- Reviewing of the state of the art
- Making a proposal for solving the problem
- Practical work
- Documentation and description of the results
- Discussion

This approach has to be represented in the thesis and should appear there in them same order.

The written thesis has the parts:

- Introduction
- State of the art
- Results
- Discussion
- Experimental Part
- Literature

Each part has its own value and the practical work should not be overestimated by the student as it is often the case. After the work is finished only the written thesis has continuity and is therefore rated as the most valuable part.

The thesis is rated under the following criteria:

- Is there a correct description of the problem?
- Is the description of the state of the art sufficient and documented by citations of references?
- Is the approach to the problem described in the right way?
- How is the approach described – design of experiments, raw material, tools and instrumental equipment (what was why done and how)?
- How are results described?
- Is a critical distance to the own work kept by the student? (descriptive, informative but not evaluative or persuading)
- Is the precision of results evaluated and discussed?
- Is the discussion meaningful?
- Is the literal sense of the thesis (correct grammar, expression, concisely, logically or discursive, disordered, cants)?
- Is the layout clear and concise, tables readable, correct labelled diagrams (axes with corresponding dimensions!) not overcrowded?

Besides of the written thesis also the practical work counts for the grading. What counts is:

How does the student grasp a problem? Is the student quoting own proposals? How are experiments planned? How is the work organized? Is the sense of the own work challenged, rechecked and scrutinized by the student? How accurate is the work documented (Lab-Journal)? How the student does accept criticism? Is the student able to work in a team?

Possible ratings are:

- very good (1.0 and 1,3)
- good (1.7, 2.0 and 2.3)
- satisfying (2.7, 3.0 and 3.3)
- sufficient (3.7 and 4.0)
- inadequate (4.7 and 5.0)

The final grading will be the mean value of the ratings of the 1st and the 2nd supervisor.