

Bachelor and Master Thesis Guideline

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You should follow a certain style-guide

Topic

- You can select your topics from different areas related to political economy and economic development of the MENA region.
 - Comparative, case studies or panel studies are welcomed.
- I prefer to supervise research questions with an empirical research design and clear policy relevance for developing countries and in particular the MENA region.
- When you have a few interesting ideas, arrange an appointment and discuss their feasibility.
- After finalizing the topic with supervisor, the registration with exam office can start.

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General

- The Theses' length and their page numbers are regulated in exam regulations.
 - In general, the Thesis can be between 30 and 80 pages limit.
- The Thesis should have approximately 40 pages (Bachelor) and 60 pages (Master) including reference list (excluding title pages, table of contents, appendix).
- I expect to receive a hard copy of the Thesis plus soft copies (PDF and Word documents) with replication files (code and data) for empirical studies. These information have to be sent to my email address.
- Make sure to submit your Thesis to exam office by deadline! Also make sure that all your formal examiners have received your Thesis.

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Format

- Paper size needs to be A4
- Pages need to have borders (left: 2.5cm, right: 2.5cm, top: 2.5cm, bottom: 2.5cm)
 - Text font is Arial or Times New Roman 12 with 1.5 line spacing (footnotes, tables: Arial or Times New Roman 10, 1.0 line spacing)
- The main text must have a decadal structure (e.g. 2., 2.1, etc.). Single subchapters, for example using 2.1 without 2.2, are not suggested.
- The writing language is English for all international Master programs. We also encourage English as the writing language for BA Theses.

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Numbering

- Arabic numbers for text pages, starting with #1
- Latin numbers for all other pages, starting with the title page (counted but not displayed on title page); Latin numbers continue again after the text pages (for backups etc.)

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Different parts in your Thesis

Before the text
(Latin numb.)



- Title Page
- Abstract
- Table of contents
- Table of figures
- Table of abbreviations

The main text
(Arabic numb.)



- Introduction;
- Review of literature (theoretical framework and empirical literature);
- Hypothesis, Data & Methodology;
- Results;
- Conclusion

After the text
(Latin numb.)



- Reference list
- Appendix

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Different kinds of references

Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa).

Reference style

Note: only use the most relevant references.

Text: All citations in the text should refer to:

- 1. Single author:** the author's name (without initials, unless there is ambiguity) and the year of publication;
- 2. Two authors:** both authors' names and the year of publication;
- 3. Three or more authors:** first author's name followed by 'et al.' and the year of publication.

Citations may be made directly (or parenthetically). Groups of references should be listed first alphabetically, then chronologically.

Examples: Some studies show a positive association between X and Y (Allan, 2000a, 2000b; Meierrieks and Gries, 2013; Farzanegan, 2014). Biswas et al. (2012) and Gupta et al. (2001) have shown'

Reference List: References should be arranged first alphabetically and then further sorted chronologically if necessary. More than one reference from the same author(s) in the same year must be identified by the letters 'a', 'b', 'c', etc., placed after the year of publication (as mentioned above for Allan).

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Different kinds of references

Reference to a journal publication:

Biswas, A., Farzanegan, M.R., Thum, M., 2012. Pollution, shadow economy and corruption: theory and evidence. *Ecological Economics* 75, 114–125.

Farzanegan, M.R., 2014. Military spending and economic growth: The case of Iran. *Defence and Peace Economics* 25, 247-269.

Meierrieks, D., Gries, T., 2013. Causality between terrorism and economic growth. *Journal of Peace Research* 50, 91-104.

Reference to a book:

Wooldridge, J. M., 2002. *Econometric analysis of cross section and panel data*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Gupta, S., Davoodi, H., Tiongson, E., 2001. Corruption and the provision of health care and education services. In: Jain, A. K. (Ed.), *The Political Economy of Corruption*. Routledge, London; New York, pp. 111-141.

Reference to databases:

World Bank, 2019. *World Development Indicators*. Washington D.C.

OPEC, 2018. *Annual Statistical Bulletin (ASB)*. Vienna.

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Check other Information

<https://www.uni-marburg.de/en/fb02/studying/examinations-office> (FB02)

<https://www.uni-marburg.de/de/cnms/studium/pruefungsangelegenheiten> (CNMS)