

Guidelines master's dissertation report

The size of the master's dissertation is aimed at 60 pages / 20,000 words (from 'introduction' up to and including 'list of references')

The report is in A4 format and contains the following items

- 1) **White cover page**: use appropriate version as listed under [Cover page per programme](#).
- 2) [Copyright clause](#) if the master's dissertation is not confidential.
- 3) [Confidentiality notification](#) if the master's dissertation is confidential.
- 4) **Preface**: = foreword, personal introduction, acknowledgement to persons and/or institutions that have contributed to the master's dissertation.
- 5) **Table of contents**
- 6) **List of abbreviations** : if applicable
- 7) **Abstract** : concise summary of the problem studied, method, results, discussion and conclusions in the language of the master's dissertation (Dutch translation if applicable). Maximum of 250 words.
- 8) **Introduction** : description of the context and the positioning of the problem, setting the stage for your research with a clear focus, purpose, and direction on the relevant topic. Max 3 pages.
- 9) **Literature review** : based on relevant literature. The problem definition and research questions are described and critically analyzed. The literature review clarifies the focus of the master's dissertation and builds towards the own research questions. New perspectives, connections, conclusions and answers are explored.
- 10) **Materials and methods** : gives a description of the available and used datasets, as well as the applied instruments and analytical methods. Description of how the experiment (or observation) was conducted. The student provides sufficient details to allow another scientist to repeat the experiment.
- 11) **Results** : presents the data, illustrated by figures and tables. It should not contain interpretations, which is reserved for the discussion section.
- 12) **Discussion** : interpretation and possible explanations of the results in response to the research questions.
- 13) **Conclusion** : overview of the main findings in a broader context. Discussion of the implications of the results for theory, practice and/or policy, limitations of own research and relevant directions for follow-up research. Maximum of 3 pages.
- 14) **Reference list**
- 15) **Appendices** : if applicable