

# Organization of a Master Thesis Project

(Version: 08.03.2022)

## Informal Phase

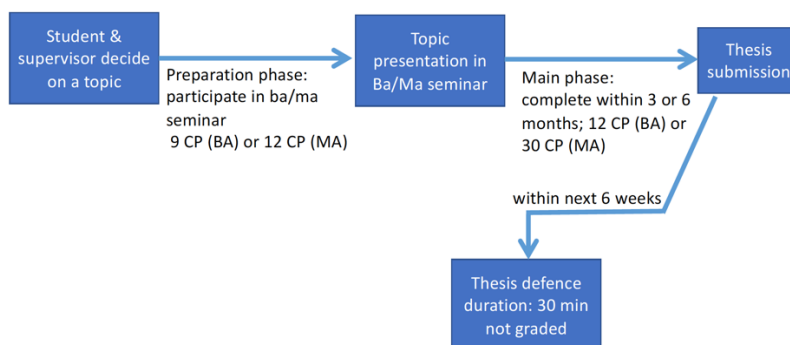
1. Student sends transcript and motivation of the thesis topic
2. Call with the external partner's supervisor and Prof. Maaß
3. Student prepares thesis expose which is signed off by the external partner's supervisor.
4. Decision on the acceptance of supervision by Prof. Maaß

## Thesis Expose

Thesis expose submitted to Prof. Maaß:

1. Introduction and Motivation
2. Problem statement
3. Research question(s)
4. Method (what are the intended steps for solving the problem given by the research question(s))
5. Literature

Note: be as precise and clear as possible. Avoid high-level descriptions. Focus on real problems, real data and real research questions. Problems become real if domain experts (e.g., automotive engineers) confirm that the problem exists in their daily work. Data becomes real if you have access to it and you can work with it (no dummy data). Research questions become real when they derive directly from the problem and available data can be used directly for this purpose.<sup>1</sup>



1. **Master seminar** (latest 6 months after beginning of your thesis project): at DFKI, Saarbrücken<sup>2</sup>: 20 min presentation + 20 min discussion
  - Preparation of the relevant scientific literature

<sup>1</sup> If data shall be collected during your thesis, you need to confirm that collection of this particular data is feasible and is not restricted by firm regulations.

<sup>2</sup> MODULHANDBUCH Informatik MSc [https://www.ps-mint.uni-saarland.de/fileadmin/user\\_upload/\\_imported/fileadmin/Benutzerdaten/Downloads/Formulare/Informatik/Modulhandbuch/modulhandbuch-informatik-msc-2021-11-25.pdf](https://www.ps-mint.uni-saarland.de/fileadmin/user_upload/_imported/fileadmin/Benutzerdaten/Downloads/Formulare/Informatik/Modulhandbuch/modulhandbuch-informatik-msc-2021-11-25.pdf)

- Written elaboration of the topic of the master thesis
- Presentation about the planned topic with subsequent discussion
- Active participation in the discussion

**Workload:**

30 h seminar

+ 40 h contact with **supervisor of external partner**

+ 290 h private study

= 360 h (= 12 ECTS)

2. **Thesis defense:** at DFKI, Saarbrücken: 30 min presentation + 30 min discussion (cf. Modulhandbuch Informatik MSc)
  - In the master thesis the student demonstrates his ability to perform independent scientific work focusing on an adequately challenging topic prepared in the master seminar.

Please contact the MINT examination office for details on the thesis project organization.

Student is responsible for organizing his / her seminar and thesis defense.

**Organizational issues**

- Named supervisors of the firm are fully responsible for the supervision of the thesis project
- The grading of the seminar and the thesis will be done by me on the basis of the reports of the company's supervisors.
- Choosing the second reviewer: we decided at the CS department that it is good practice that you have the right to choose the second reviewer. For requirements cf. <https://www.ps-mint.uni-saarland.de/index.php?id=167&L=3>
- Joint publications are planned in the case of exceptional results