Graduation thesis

Toomas Lepikult

Toomas.Lepikult@itcollege.ee

6285 840

An excellent thesis is …

- An **independent** research with a **clear result** (an algorithm designed, intended or tested software, process analysis, etc.)
- Addresses a **timely/novel** topic, while giving sufficient and relevant **review of alternative** or similar approaches (based on professional literature)
- Uses a correct set of research **methods** or methodology to analyze the problem
- The result of work done is **reasonable** and **reliable**
- A well-**structured**
- A well-**balanced** work – an introduction/review of **scientific literature**, methodology, description of work done, analysis and justification
- Formatted correctly – references, spelling, volume, etc.

What kind of thesis should NOT be submitted?

- Report or general **essay** on a selected topic;
- Work with missing or **not clearly defined** research problem and methodology;
- Work in which **choices** made by the author, e.g. in regards to methodology, review of scientific literature, **are not justified or adequately reasoned;**
- Work where **author's contribution** is not clearly distinguishable, or is otherwise poorly structured;
- Work where it seems that everything is technically correct, but there is **no fundamental content;**
- Work which includes important and relevant content, but is **technically incorrect;**
- **Plagiarism** and otherwise **incorrectly formatted** work;

Looking for subject

- Find the problem to solve – on internship, among hobbies, …
- Describe the problem with two-three sentences
- Describe in free form the solution (vision)
- Find the achievable result (scope) and fix in written form
- Find the different ways of solving of the problem……
- Choose the optimal (best) method for solution. Prove, that your way is the best one!
- Describe, how the world has changed after your great work!
- Describe your future plans in this field!

Thesis and internship

- In ideal case, the thesis could be systematic analysis of work you have done at your internship.
- The suggestions for upgrading of IT systems in enterprise you have practised could be crone jewels in your thesis!

Timetable

- Submission of <u>draft</u> (pdf, in moodle)

  Sept, 25th

- Defense of draft

  sept, 30th – Oct, 2nd

- Submission in SIS

  Dec, 14th

- Preliminary defense

  Dec, 8 – 10th

- Submission of thesis

  Jan, 7th

- Final defense

  Jan, 20 – 22nd

Permission to defend

Defense application can be satisfied, if:

- all modules of one specialization of curriculum are fulfilled
- all subjects are in correct modules
    - for transfer of subjects, a written consent form the head of the study program is needed
- results of last exams are in a week before defense
- performances done in Open University are transferred to your account in SIS a week before defense
- assessment for internship (practical placement) is in SIS
- the paid students have paid for the defense

Permission to defend

- submission in SIS. (Dec, 14th)
    - The subject in english and Estonian (misspelling is not allowed!)
    - Supervisor(s)
    - Supervisor accepts the declaration
- Submission of thesis (upload in moodle the pdf-file), <u>metadata form</u> and <u>non-exclusive license for publication</u> (Jan, 7th)
- The chairman of defense commission can not accept the work to defense, if it is not in accordance with stated requirements.

Defense

- Be in time!
- Be sure, that all materials needed are in hand;
- Presentation: 7 – 10 minutes;
  be punctual!
- Approximately 1 slide per minute;
- Underlining the main result;
- You have to present to commission;
- The defense is governed by chairman;
- Be correct and punctual when answering the questions!
- The defense is ceremonial event (appropriate dressing-code!)
- In final speech, it is relevant to render thanks to supervisor, referee, commission, family …

Grading

- The actuality of subject

- The structure,

- The methods and materials used in work,

- The formatting,

- The result,

- The performance of student

- Presentation, answering the questions,

- The opinions of referee and supervisor

Grading matrice (in Estonian)

More information about thesis writing:

- Moodle-course: https://moodle.taltech.ee/course/view.php?id=30706
  Self registration key: **finalthesis**

- http://www.itcollege.ee/~lepikult/diplomitoo

- Formatting rules, templates, …
  https://old.taltech.ee/faculties/school-of-information-technologies/it-studies/thesis-and-graduation-9/

- How to organize your thesis (Prof. John W. Chinneck)

Thank you for attention!