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AQFood Master Programme

The following table brings up the local practices related to the thesis and graduation procedures. All these details are to be discussed when planning for the joint supervision of the thesis and possibly the joint evaluation of the thesis.

1) Location of thesis (university/company), administrative steps for registration of with topic

Requirements	UoI	NMBU	DTU	SLU	NTNU
Administrative steps	Students fill in a thesis agreement form (topic, methods applied, deadline, IPR if necessary), that must be approved by the UoI AQFood coordinator and the faculty head. Registration of thesis subject and deadline for the defense in the UoI adminstrative system	Register thesis in study administrative system Sign agreement	Students fill in a thesis agreement form (topic, methods applied, deadline, IPR if necessary), that must be approved by the programme coordinator. Registration of thesis subject and deadline in STADS. Deadline is 5 months after start for 30 ECTS. Students must apply for exemption if they cannot submit at the deadline agreed on.	The degree project must be carried out according to the Guidelines for degree projects. Details may be found in the document https://student.slu.se/Documents/internwebben/ledningskansliet/GUR%20och%20UN/riktlinjer-sjalvstandiga-arbeten-mm.pdf Information about application and admission can be foud at https://student.slu.se/en/studies/admissio	Register thesis in study administrative system Sign agreement

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Requirements	UoI	NMBU	DTU	SLU	NTNU
				n/ The student must be registered in LADOK for SLU's liability and insurance to be valid.	
Physical presence required at university / country during thesis procedure	YES	No	Yes Writing and working in a company is accepted.	No	no
Thesis at university possible (without salary)	Yes	Yes	Yes	yes	yes
Thesis in company with salary	Yes	No	Yes	Yes. Any compensation from the company is governed separately in an agreement between the student and the company.	no
Thesis in company without salary	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes. Arrangements with any external clients is handled by	yes

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Requirements	UoI	NMBU	DTU	SLU	NTNU
				a separate agreement, then between SLU and the client - not the student.	
Regular meetings with supervisor	Yes, by agreement	Yes (mail or meetings)	Yes, by agreement	Yes, by agreement	Yes, by email or meetings
Presentation of thesis/defense at university	Yes	Yes	Yes, but not necessarily physically present	Yes. The examiner must attend the presentation.	No
Presentation/defense via videoconference possible	YES but as an exception	Yes	Yes	?	N/A
Special	Thesis advisor (“umsjónakennari”) is always faculty member, but the supervisor can be internal or external, for example the AQFood UoI coordinator	Thesis is formally always supervised by a NMBU professor	Thesis is formally always (co-) supervised by a DTU professor.	In cases where the student performs work externally and has an external supervisor there must also be a main supervisor at SLU responsible for ensuring that work is carried out according to SLU's guidelines and current syllabus.	Thesis is formally always supervised by a NTNU professor.

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2) Thesis supervision, assessment and graduation

	UoI	NMBU	DTU	SLU	NTNU
Thesis supervisors	Thesis advisor +supervisor + external censor* (always at least three)	Supervisor Instructor + external censor	Supervisor + external censor	Supervisor + Examiner. The examiner's role is not to supervise, but only to assess the final version of the thesis.	Supervisor Instructor + external censor
Submission of thesis (physical form)	One for the university (mandatory) and one for each committee member (optional)	Electronic AND minimum 3 bound copies of the thesis shall be delivered by the submission deadline	Must be handed in electronical (pdf) at CampusNet. Supervisors and censor can ask for a copy in physical form.	All independent projects will be checked for plagiarism (in Urkund) before being approved and subsequently published in SLU's electronic archive for student projects (Epsilon).	Electronic submission only
Grade is given by	By the committee (see above) The external censor should be from outside the faculty if possible.	External censor + supervisor = - Can't be employed at NMBU - *Must have obtained a grade at least similar to a	External censor and supervisor. External censor cannot be employed at DTU -must appear at DTU censor list	The examiner, after final approval by the main supervisor. The supervisor certifies that the degree project has been completed according	External censor + internal censor = - Can't be employed at NTNU - *Must have obtained a grade at least similar to a

	UoI	NMBU	DTU	SLU	NTNU
	*Must have obtained a grade at least similar to a master's degree within the area -Can't have taken part in lectures/supervision	master's degree, and be "professional" within the particular area	- cannot have taken part to supervision, - is paid by DTU	to submitted project plan and that the final version of the thesis has been forwarded to course leader/department director of studies.	master's degree, and be "professional" within the particular area -Can't have taken part in lectures/supervision - external censor is paid NOK 243,10 per hour x 8 hours
Assessment period	The grade is given at the date of the defense	Maximum 6 weeks after submission. The grade is given at the date of the defense	The grade is given at the day of the defense, which must be given no later than two weeks after the written report has been submitted. This two-week deadline is excl. Christmas Holiday and national holidays.	?	Maximum of 3 months after submission of deadline
Graduation date	UoI has three possible graduation dates: in late February, late June and late October. The thesis defense must be at least	The date of *submission* of the master's thesis, or the date for the last exam.	The graduation date is the date the grade of the last exam is given. If the thesis work ends the study, the defense day will be	The graduation date (specified in LADOK) is the date the student finally fulfilled the course requirements (usually the date of	The date of *submission* of the master's thesis, or the date for the last exam.

	UoI	NMBU	DTU	SLU	NTNU
	three weeks prior to the graduation.		the grade day. If the study is finalized with exams (e.g. re-sits), the graduation date becomes the date the exam grade is announced.	submission of completed independent project (thesis) or the date of the presentation).	
Graduation ceremonies	Graduation ceremony is in connection with the February and June graduations	Graduation ceremony in June (Faculty)	Graduation ceremony twice a year (March and October)		Graduation ceremony in June (Faculty)
Degree certificate delivery	The student gets the diploma at the graduation ceremony or at the school office or can get it by mail on a request..	The diploma is sent to the student after the final grade has been reported to the exams office	The diploma is sent to the student. The student receives a wall diploma at the graduation ceremony.	After an application for a diploma is submitted to the university by the student, it takes one to three weeks before the degree certificate is sent to the student.	The degree certificates are signed by the Dean of the Faculty in one month (at the earliest) after the grade of the thesis is reported to the exams office.
Graduation with distinction		no	DTU has honors and elite programmes, but no distinctions are awarded based on GPA performance.	?	no

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3) Grading system

ECTS	DTU	NTNU	SLU	UMB	UoI
A, best 10%	12	A, 89 – 100	5	A	9.0 – 10
B, next 25%	10	B, 77 - 88	4	B	7.25 – 8.99
C, next 30%	7	C, 65 - 76	3	C	6.0 – 7.24
D, next 25%	4	D, 53 - 64	U	D	<6 (fail)
E, next 10%	2	E, 41 - 52		E	
F, fail	0 -3	F, 0 - 40		F	

Comment for NTNU – we use descriptions for the master thesis
NMBU use the same descriptions

Description of grades master thesis NTNU

These descriptions must naturally be adjusted to the scope of the master's thesis in terms of the number of credits.

Symbol	Level	Description
A	Excellent	• Excellent work which is outstanding. • The candidate has very good insight into the scientific theory and methods in his/her field and has demonstrated scientific knowledge at a very high level. The objectives of the thesis are well defined and easy to understand. • The candidate is able to select and apply relevant scientific methods convincingly, has all the technical skills required for the work, can plan and conduct advanced experiments or computations and works very independently in cooperation with a supervisor. • The thesis is very thorough and contains new knowledge and is an innovative contribution. The analysis and discussion have an extremely good scientific foundation and justification and are clearly relevant to the topic that is addressed. The candidate demonstrates extremely

		good critical reflection and distinguishes clearly between his/her contributions and the contributions from others. • The form, structure and language in the thesis are at an extremely high level.
B	Very good	• Very good work that is clearly distinguishable. • The candidate has very good scientific knowledge and insight into the scientific theory and methods in his/her field. The objectives of the thesis are well defined and easy to understand. • The candidate is able to select and apply relevant scientific methods soundly, has almost all the technical skills required for the work, can plan and conduct experiments or computations very well and works independently in cooperation with a supervisor. • The thesis is thorough and contains some new knowledge and some innovative contributions. The analysis and discussion have a very good scientific foundation and justification and are clearly relevant to the topic that is addressed. The candidate demonstrates very good critical reflection and distinguishes clearly between his/her contributions and the contributions from others. • The form, structure and language in the thesis are at a very high level.
C	Good	• A good piece of work. • The candidate has good scientific knowledge and insight into the scientific theory and methods in his/her field. The objectives of the thesis are generally well defined, but may contain some unclear formulations. • The candidate uses the relevant scientific methods satisfactorily, has most of the technical skills required for the work, can plan and conduct experiments or computations well. • The thesis is considered good with elements that are creative. The analysis and discussion have a good scientific foundation and justification and are relevant to the topic that is addressed. The candidate demonstrates good critical reflection and usually distinguishes clearly between his/her contributions and the contributions from others. • The form, structure and language in the thesis are at a good level.
D	Satisfactory	• A clearly acceptable piece of work. • The candidate has quite good scientific knowledge and insight into the scientific theory and methods in his/her field. The objectives of the thesis are defined, but contain some inexact formulations. • The candidate is generally able to apply relevant scientific methods, has the main technical skills required for the work, and can plan and conduct experiments or computations without help. The candidate works independently to some extent, but needs quite close supervision to achieve satisfactory scientific progress. • The thesis is considered satisfactory. The analysis and discussion have a satisfactory scientific foundation and justification, and are relevant to the topic that is addressed, but there is room for improvement. The candidate demonstrates his/her ability for critical reflection, but has problems • distinguishing clearly between his/her contributions and the contributions from others.

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		• The form, structure and language in the thesis are at an acceptable level.
E	Sufficient	• A piece of work that is acceptable and satisfies the minimum criteria. • The candidate has sufficient scientific knowledge and insight into the scientific theory and methods in his/her field. The objectives of the thesis are described, but are vague and imprecise. • The candidate is able to apply some relevant scientific methods, has a minimum of technical skills required for the work, and can plan and conduct experiments or computations generally without help but achieves limited scientific progress unless there is close supervision. • The thesis is considered limited and somewhat fragmented. The analysis and discussion have an adequate scientific foundation and justification, but ought to have had a better relevance to the topic that is addressed. The candidate demonstrates sufficient critical reflection, but has problems distinguishing between his/her contributions and the contributions from others. • The thesis is generally acceptable, but has definite shortcomings with respect to form, structure and language.
F	Fail	• A piece of work that does not satisfy the minimum requirements. • The candidate does not have sufficient scientific knowledge and insight into the scientific theory and methods in his/her field. The objectives of the thesis are unclearly defined or lacking. • The candidate demonstrates a lack of competence in the use of scientific methods, does not have the required technical skills and achieves very limited scientific progress, even with close supervision. • The thesis is considered very limited and fragmented. The analysis and discussion do not have an adequate scientific foundation and justification, and are only partly relevant to the topic that is addressed. The candidate does not demonstrate the necessary critical reflection, and does not distinguish between his/her contributions and the contributions from others. • The thesis has major shortcomings with respect to form, structure, and language.