



Technische Universität München

ESPACE

MSc in Earth Oriented Space
Science and Technology

ESPACE Guidelines for Master's Thesis and Master's Colloquium

The Master's Thesis is an individual research work carried out under the guidance of an ESPACE lecturer. Master's Thesis topics should have a strong relation to Earth Oriented Space Science and Technology. It is recommended that you begin looking for a topic already during the 3rd semester. According to the study plan, the 4th semester is dedicated to the Master's Thesis.

Following lecturers are **authorized to supervise and grade** your thesis:

Prof. Dr. Richard **Bamler**
Hon.-Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Michael **Eineder**
Prof. Dr. Christoph **Günther**
Prof. Dr. Urs **Hugentobler**
Dr. Christoph **Kiemle**
PD Dr. rer. nat. Marco **Körner**
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Liqiu **Meng**
Hon.-Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Oliver **Montenbruck**
Dr. rer. nat. Alexander **Neidhardt**
Prof. Dr. Roland **Pail**
Dr.-Ing. Martin **Rott**
Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Michael **Schmidt**
Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Florian **Seitz**
Prof. Dr.-Ing. Uwe **Stilla**
Dr.-Ing. Günter **Strunz**
Prof. Dr. Ulrich **Walter**
Prof. Dr. rer. nat. Martin **Werner**
Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Xiaoxiang **Zhu**

Besides your main supervisor, it is possible to have additional supervisor(s), e.g. PhD candidates or any lecturer from TUM if agreed by your main supervisor.

Students are free to do their Master's Thesis outside of TUM, for example at one of the contributing ESPACE institutions. If the supervisor is external, the student needs to find an **additional supervisor among the ESPACE lecturers** (see above). The student should be aware that the ESPACE supervisor has the main responsibility and officially grades the Thesis, even though the main work might be carried out at the external institute.

When students complete their thesis, they have to defend it in a Master's Colloquium. The Master's Thesis must be written in **English**.

Finding a Topic

There are several possible ways how to find the topic of the Master's Thesis, e.g. you can talk to the lecturers during the third semester (or earlier) and ask for a topic. In this case, the student can have some influence on the topic. Another possibility is to look for topics in research institutes and in companies. In such a case, an additional supervisor among the ESPACE lecturers is needed.



Technische Universität München

ESPACE

MSc in Earth Oriented Space
Science and Technology

Master's Thesis Registration

According to the Subject-Specific Academic and Examination Regulation of ESPACE, the Master's Thesis **shall be the last exam in your studies**. Upon agreement with the examination board, you can start your Master's Thesis if you have one exam open. If you have more exams open, the examination board will decide case-by-case if you are eligible to start your Master's Thesis!

For the registration of your Master's Thesis, please write an email to the examination office examination.asg@ed.tum.de. The latter will check whether the admission requirements have been met and send you a notification of admission by e-mail. Please present this letter to your thesis supervisor to prove that you are eligible to start your Master's Thesis. The supervisor will fill out the registration form with you together and the supervisor should send the form to the examination office.

Period for Master's Thesis

The period of time between Thesis registration and submission of the completed Master's Thesis must not exceed 6 months.

Upon a student's written request, the period of time for writing the Master's Thesis may, **in especially justified cases**, be extended by a maximum of 3 months. In case of an extension, an additional form must be filled in and signed by both supervisor and student. The extension form can be downloaded from the TUM ESPACE wiki website in the section "documents".

The extension form has to be submitted before the original deadline for the submission. Consequently, you **are not allowed** to extend the thesis by e.g. two months and then by additional one month.

Be aware that an extension of the Master's Thesis may cover an additional semester and you will have to pay the student union fee for the following semester!

Further extension is possible only if you are ill and bring an appropriate petition to the examination board with attached a medical certificate. Then the examination board will decide about your extraordinary extension. An authorization of the medical certificate by a public health officer may (but does not have to) be requested.

In case you will fail the thesis, you will have the second and last chance to start a new thesis with a new topic.

You have the right to return your topic within the first two months after you registered your thesis. This can be done only in justified cases. In case you failed the first thesis and you write a second one, you can make use of this rule only if you did not do it during the first thesis.

Submission of the Thesis

You have to submit your thesis to your supervisor and the ESPACE program coordinator before the deadline. For the latter, a digital version is sufficient. Please clarify in advance with your supervisor if a digital submission is sufficient or if you need to provide a printed copy in addition.

Additionally, please write an email to examination.asg@ed.tum.de and inform the examination office about your submission.



Technische Universität München

ESPACE

MSc in Earth Oriented Space
Science and Technology

The thesis should include front cover and the statement of authorship (including location, date and signature). In case a printed copy is needed, the printed copy should be bound using a thermal (glue) binding. No standardized format is currently agreed in the ESPACE program and no study-specific template is available.

Master's Colloquium

The Master's Colloquium should take place not later than **two months after submission of the thesis**. In the colloquium you have to defend your thesis in a presentation of 20 to 30 minutes. Afterwards, you will be asked questions by the audience.

Please arrange a date and a location with your supervisor. The colloquium can be held via Zoom or in person at TUM. It is up to the supervisor and yourself whom you want to invite (ESPACE lecturers, students etc.)

IMPORTANT! Please remember that the Master's Colloquium is possibly held for broader audience of all ESPACE lecturers and students. It must be understandable for them!

Grade for the Master's Thesis

The grade for the Master's Thesis consists only of the grade for the written document. You will earn 30 ECTS for your written thesis. The colloquium is not graded.

Grading Master's Thesis report

The written Thesis is evaluated by the first supervisor within **two months after submission** of the written Thesis. The supervisor has to fill out the grading form provided via TUM ESPACE wiki website and send it to the examination office via examination.asg@ed.tum.de.

In all affairs not described in this Guidelines please contact your supervisor or the ESPACE student advisor.

Current responsibilities:

Head of the *ESPACE Examination Board* - currently **Prof. Urs Hugentobler**
ESPACE program coordinator and student advisor - currently **Mr. Nikolas Pfaffenzeller**
Secretary of the ESPACE Examination Board - currently **Mr. Daniel Harteinstein**

Status: October 24, 2022