

	Research problem	Familiarity with the topic	Execution				Reporting	Process
	The author is able to formulate the research task and give a rationale for the research problem or development task.	The author is familiar with prior research and related theories.	An appropriate research method and research design has been justifiably adopted and described.	The author is able to apply and adapt the chosen research or development method.	The author is able to assess critically the success of the application of the chosen research method, including data collection and analysis where empirical work has been undertaken.	The author is able to reflect the results of the piece of research in relation to previously conducted research or prior knowledge.	The author is able to report, present arguments and write scientific text following the programme specific reporting guidelines.	The author is able to conduct the research or development task from the beginning to an end through a controlled process and in liaison with any collaborative partners.
1	<p>The research problem or development task has been defined and its relevance to the field of the Master's degree programme is explained. The reasoning is grounded with at least one reference to a convincing academic source literature.</p> <p>Acceptable deficiencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Unclear or insufficient linkage between the research and its meaning to the existing research literature; it is questionable whether the work will add any value to previously done research. 	<p>Key concepts have been recognised and the work introduces academic literature relevant to the topic. Literature has been used to define the key concepts and to present some of the main research results from prior studies.</p> <p>Acceptable deficiencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The relevant source literature is inadequate compared to the availability of literature on the topic. - The work is unable to identify the core literary contributions. - The process for conducting the literature review is insufficiently reported. - The use of literature is superficial and lacks synthesis. - The concepts are poorly defined and inconsistent. 	<p>A research or development method has been chosen to solve the research problem. It is clear what research material or data has been collected and where the material is from. Principles of research ethics have been followed in collection and analysis of data.</p> <p>Acceptable deficiencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The adopted research method is ill-suited to solve the research problem. - The author has not provided a justification for the chosen method. - The chosen methods of data collection are unsuitable for the research task at hand or their use is inadequate. - The research material or data is scattered or unrepresentative with regards to the research task. 	<p>All stages of the chosen research method have been applied and reported in the thesis. A result which addresses the original research problem has been achieved and reported.</p> <p>Acceptable deficiencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Practical errors and oversights in research implementation even if they led to results and conclusions which were practically nugatory. - The thesis is lacking any systematic analysis. - Data analysis has clear methodological errors. 	<p>The thesis includes a critical assessment of the application of the used methods and the reliability of the results, including data collection and analysis where empirical methods have been employed.</p> <p>Acceptable deficiencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The criticism is over or underrated or fails to address the relevant issues despite all attempts. - Assessment of the reliability of the research is superficial. Answers to the research questions are implausible. 	<p>The author relates the results to prior research or scientific knowledge in an honest manner, following the basic principles of research ethics.</p> <p>Acceptable deficiencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The comparison of the results against prior research is limited, superficial or erroneous. 	<p>The thesis generally complies with the valid, programme specific reporting guidelines. The language used is generally appropriate for scientific reporting and does not contain such errors which would deter from understanding of the text.</p> <p>Acceptable deficiencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The thesis is written in poor style with illogical, colloquial, foreign or otherwise unclear expressions which somewhat hinder the understanding of the meaning. - Essential parts of the thesis structure are missing or the thesis over emphasises a certain chapter or a subchapter. - The thesis is inadequately finalised in many parts. 	<p>The thesis is completed and it is ready to be published. The end result complies with the basic principles of research ethics.</p> <p>Acceptable deficiencies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are significant, persisting deficiencies in the author's initiative, sense of responsibility, time management skills or ability to seek and receive feedback which did not improve during the process. - The author would have failed to complete the thesis or fulfill the minimum requirements without significant input from the supervisor.
2								
3	<p>The research problem or development task has been chosen in a way that enable the creation of new knowledge for the discipline. The research questions are motivated by the lack of prior studies or by practical needs and the motivation is supported by reference to existing research or other independently verifiable facts.</p>	<p>Literature search for the review has been properly conducted and reported. Key concepts are defined appropriately and there are no obvious errors or misconceptions on the author's part.</p>	<p>The methods used are appropriate for the task at hand and their selection is based on the relevant literature and prior research. The data enable appropriate answers to the research questions despite potential limitations to its representativeness, for example.</p>	<p>The chosen methods have been applied correctly. Analysis has been carried out appropriately and meticulously in relation to the research task and the nature of the data.</p>	<p>The thesis includes an appropriate assessment of reliability and validity if applicable to the research task.</p>	<p>The research results are presented in relation to prior studies in the field. A dialogue with the results and previously conducted research is used in analysis. The thesis includes consideration of the practical and scientific relevance of the results. Relevant ideas for further studies have been suggested.</p>	<p>The report demonstrates appropriate language for scientific thesis and its structure is coherent, clear and logical in progression. The thesis complies with the given reporting guidelines almost flawlessly.</p>	<p>The student has shown initiative and ability to take responsibility throughout the process and in managing the schedule. The student has demonstrated the ability to seek and receive feedback in interaction with the supervisor. The research ethical perspectives have been taken into consideration at each stage of the process and it has been unnecessary for the supervisor to intervene in issues such as intentional plagiarism.</p>
4								
5	<p>The research problem is described in detail and the rationale for the research is thoroughly justified. In relation to the leading research described in the work, the task has been chosen in such a way that it contributes to significant and useful progress in the field.</p>	<p>The work includes a comprehensive literature review and the key concepts are used flawlessly.</p>	<p>Research methods are in line with the set objectives and a rationale has been given for their selection. The data collection methods are demanding and they have been skillfully tailored to meet the needs of the research at hand. The data provide reliable scientific evidence and enable reliable conclusions.</p>	<p>The research methods are indeniably appropriate to solve the research problem and they have been used skillfully. Analysis is solid in relation to the research task and the collected data. Assessment of the research results and execution of the research in terms of reliability and validity, for example, is impeccable.</p>	<p>The research process and its execution has been reported in great detail which enables verification of reliability and validity of the research.</p>	<p>Interpretation and discussion of the results is systematic, extensive, analytical and critical. The author is convincing in demonstrating the practical and scientific significance and novelty value of the research in relation to previously conducted studies.</p>	<p>The thesis is written in stylistically and linguistically flawless scientific language which is easy to read. Content-wise the work is a balanced and logical entity with all its parts contributing to the objective of the work. The thesis fully complies with the given reporting guidelines</p>	<p>The student has shown initiative and responsibility throughout the process. The work process and its scheduling has been well managed and clearly communicated to the supervisor at each stage of the work.</p>