



**APPLIES TO ACADEMIC YEAR 2009/2010**

## **GRA 1900 Master Thesis**

### **Programme**

Master of Science in Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Master of Science in Business and Economics, Master of Science in Financial Economics, Master of Science in Leadership and Organizational Psychology, Master of Science in Strategic Marketing Management, Master of Science in Political Economy, Thesis

### **Responsible for the course**

### **Department**

Department of Economics

### **Term**

According to study plan

### **ECTS Credits**

30

### **Language of instruction**

English

### **Introduction**

In the course of the MSc Program all students are required to write a thesis. A thesis of 30 ECTS is a requirement for masterdegrees (Masterforskriften §6) The thesis shall be written in groups of two students, but may upon application be written individually. The thesis work consists of thesis seminars, guidance, a thesis proposal, a preliminary thesis report, and the final thesis.

Each Associate Dean is responsible for approving the thesis topic and thesis advisor. In addition the Associate Dean is responsible for thesis seminars in the program.

### **Learning outcome**

The thesis work forms a process of learning where students are given the opportunity to apply knowledge in scientific research and/or survey work. The purpose is to provide the student with knowledge and skills in survey methods and/or scientifically based research. Students are expected to treat a broadly formulated problem and prepare and submit a report, which will contribute to a solution of the problem and/or provide a sound basis for decision-making within a given time and resource framework.

### **Prerequisites**

### **Compulsory reading**

### **Recommended reading**

### **Course outline**

The thesis is normally written in groups of two students. Students who wish to write their thesis individually may apply to the Associate Dean of their program.

Students will be introduced to research methods in GRA6023 Research Methodology . In addition the Associate Dean will arrange a thesis seminar (minimum 10 hours) introducing possible topics and advisors. An oral presentation may be a part of the thesis seminar and count for a part of the grade of the preliminary thesis report. Students are expected to participate in the thesis seminars and to have individual/group guiding (10 hours) by the thesis advisor.

Students are responsible for selecting a topic/problem area, which is suitable for a thesis related to their major in the MSc program. Students need to fill in a thesis registration form, and have the topic and advisor approved by the Associate Dean. Please see the Student Handbook for detailed information on thesis work.

### **Computer-based tools**

### **Learning process and workload**

#### The Schedule

Thesis seminars are held in the 2nd and/or 3rd and/or 4th semester. Students are expected to hand in the thesis registration by May 2nd in the second semester and the preliminary thesis report by January 15th in the fourth semester. The final thesis should be submitted no later than September 1 of your final year. An extension is only given by approval of the Dean and must be supported by relevant documentation. Read BI's Academic Regulations carefully for more information on thesis extension and late submission.

NB. Students in Master of Science in International Marketing and Management hand in their preliminary thesis project by June 15th (after the second semester)

GRA1901 Thesis registration form - pass/fail

GRA 1902 Thesis preliminarythesis report - counts for 6 ECTS

GRA 1903 The final thesis - count for 24 ECTS

#### Examination

The thesis registration form is a part of the thesis process and is graded pass/fail. The preliminary thesis report (20%) is given a grade in points by the thesis advisor. An oral presentation may be a part of the thesis seminar and count as a part of the grade of the preliminary thesis report.

The final thesis (80%) , with the preliminary thesis project attached is evaluated by the thesis advisor and an external grader. Students may be called upon to orally defend their thesis. Students will not be given a grade on their thesis unless the thesis registration and preliminary thesis report, as well as the thesis, are passed.

#### Exam code(s)

GRA 19001 Thesis proposal (Thesis registration form)

GRA 19002 Preliminary thesis report and the final thesis (Æ)

#### Examination support materials

#### Re-sit examination

In case of "Fail", the student may: 1) write a new thesis, or 2) rewrite the thesis and attain a maximum grade of E. Please see Academic regulations for further information.

#### Additional information

Academic honesty and trust are important to all of us as individuals, and represent values that are encouraged and promoted by the honor code system. This is a most significant university tradition. Students are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the ideals of the honor code system, to which the faculty are also deeply committed.

Any violation of the honor code will be dealt with in accordance with BI's procedures for cheating. These issues are a serious matter to everyone associated with the programs at BI and are at the heart of the honor code and academic integrity. If you have any questions about your responsibilities under the honor code, please ask.