

# Thesis assessment-Student obligations for their Thesis



**ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ,  
ΕΘΝΙΚΟ ΚΑΙ  
ΚΑΠΟΔΙΣΤΡΙΑΚΟ  
ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ,  
ΤΜΗΜΑ ΒΙΟΛΟΓΙΑΣ**

[Type text]

2022



Athens  
International  
Master's  
Programme in  
Neuroscience



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National and Kapodistrian  
University of Athens

Department of Biology



Athens International  
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## **STUDENT OBLIGATIONS REGARDING THEIR RESEARCH THESIS PROJECT & THESIS ASSESSMENT**

Following the completion of the experimental work, students, in collaboration with their supervisor, write their thesis project according to the instructions (template, the use of the Template is mandatory) of the Program. This may include several rounds of revisions.

An effort should be made to present theses twice a year: once in November and once in February (this is because the graduation ceremonies are usually in December and April-May). In the first case, the Diploma essay should be delivered to the supervisor, the student and the remaining 2 members of the 3-member committee by October 10, the corrections by October 25 and the Presentation in November. In the second case, the Diploma should be delivered to the supervisor, the student and the other 2 members of the 3-member committee by January 10, the corrections by January 25 and the Presentation in February.

The three-member evaluation committee is given sufficient time to read, comment and evaluate the written document of the research thesis project. This time cannot be shorter than a week. The three-member evaluation committee may request additional time for reading and evaluating the written document of the thesis project.

Subsequently, the date of the presentation is decided by the three-member evaluation committee in collaboration with the student.

On the day of the presentation, students must deliver the final document to the three-member evaluation committee. One hard copy of the written thesis project plus a CD that includes the thesis document and the powerpoint presentation should be handed to the secretary of the program. Failure to hand in their thesis and the CD to the secretary of the program will result in withholding the thesis evaluation degree and the student will not be able to graduate.

During their presentation, the students should include a Three Minute Thesis (3MT) presentation to explain the breadth and significance of their research project to a non-specialist audience.

They should also include up to three slides to present their research grant proposal; title, significance and novelty.

Students performing a thesis have the obligation to attend the presentation of a thesis of their colleague and ask him/her questions. In the justification of the grade of their thesis, reference will be made to whether they attended and whether they asked questions.

Students performing a thesis have the obligation to correct the thesis of a colleague and deliver the text with their comments and observations within 10 days. In the justification of

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the degree of their diploma thesis, it will be mentioned if they corrected the work of a fellow student.



## ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT THESIS BY STUDENT

**STUDENT:**

**SUPERVISOR:**

**DATE:**

**NAME OF THESIS AUTHOR:**

**TITLE OF THESIS ASSESSED:**

### ASSESSMENT OF THE THESIS

Students should write a small summary of the aims of the study, the main results and the main conclusion (maximum 150 words).

**And then provide an assessment that will include information based on the question/ comments below (maximum 1000 words)**

TITLE

1. Does the title describe accurately the results?
2. Please, provide an alternative title:

ABSTRACT

1. Does the abstract describe the overall results?
2. Are there overstatements regarding the significance of the data?
3. Does the conclusion derive from the results presented?
4. Please, provide another conclusion

INTRODUCTION

1. Do you feel that there is a good description of the existing literature and justification of the research? Please, copy-paste a sentence indicating the significance of the study and justifies the necessity to be performed.
2. Can you identify a subject that was not presented in the introduction, but you deem necessary? Please, mention this.

METHODOLOGY

1. Is the methodology appropriate?
2. Please, suggest another methodology to answer one or more questions of the thesis.

RESULTS

(Please, choose 3 figures to comment on)

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Figure 1

1. What is the scientific question asked? Is there an adequate justification of the experiments?
2. Are the results convincing?
3. Can you suggest an experiment to complement the results presented in the Figure?
4. Can you suggest an additional control?
5. Is there a clear conclusion drawn from the experiment described? What is this conclusion?
6. Do the results support the conclusion?

Figure 2

As above

DISCUSSION

1. Is the work discussed adequately within the frame of the existing literature?
2. Is work that disagrees with the results of the authors presented? Please, indicate the reference (Black et al., 2020)
3. Is there enough explanation / justification for the discrepancies with the literature? Please, copy-paste a sentence.
4. Are there overstatements in the interpretation of the results? Please, provide an example.
5. Are there any future directions mentioned? Do you agree? Propose and briefly describe 2-3 future experimental plans that you will follow to exploit the findings of this study



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## **ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT THESIS PRESENTATION BY STUDENT**

**STUDENT:**

**SUPERVISOR:**

**DATE:**

**NAME OF THESIS AUTHOR:**

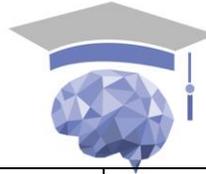
**TITLE OF THESIS ASSESSED:**

### **ASSESSMENT OF STUDENT THESIS PRESENTATION**

The student presentation will include:

1. Following the title slide students should make Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) presentation to explain the breadth and significance of their research project to a non-specialist audience.
2. The students will make a 20-minute presentation of their thesis for a scientific audience (Introduction, results, discussion, future aims).
3. Then, the students will make s 5-minute presentation of their research grant proposal; title, significance and novelty.

Students will evaluate their peers using the Table below, which will also be used by the three-member committee to evaluate the student



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| <b>Oral Presentation Evaluation Form</b>                                                                                  |   |   |   | <b>Presentation #:</b> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------|
| Student Presenter (Last Name, First Name):                                                                                |   |   |   | Judge:                 |
| Please score each item on a 1 - 3 scale, with 1 = adequate, 2 very good and 3 = excellent?                                |   |   |   |                        |
| <b>I. Technical</b>                                                                                                       |   |   |   | <b>Comments/Points</b> |
| Legibility (adequate font size, quality of printing, etc.)                                                                | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| Materials (materials create a polished presentation)                                                                      | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| Overall visual appeal (layout of text & figures)                                                                          | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| <b>Total Technical Score</b><br>(9 pts. Maximum)                                                                          |   |   |   |                        |
| <b>II. Content</b>                                                                                                        |   |   |   | <b>Comments/Points</b> |
| Introduction (Adequate background)                                                                                        | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| Methods/Results (Clear/adequate summary)                                                                                  | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| Tables & Figures (Effectively communicate key facts and concepts?<br>Are captions next to corresponding table or figure?) | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| Conclusions/Future Directions                                                                                             | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| <b>Total Content Score</b><br>(12 pts. Maximum)                                                                           |   |   |   |                        |
| <b>III. Presentation</b>                                                                                                  |   |   |   | <b>Comments/Points</b> |
| Student's grasp/ understanding of materials                                                                               | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| Student adequately answers questions                                                                                      | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| Overall Presentation Style                                                                                                | 1 | 2 | 3 |                        |
| <b>Total Presentation Score</b><br>(9 pts. Maximum)                                                                       |   |   |   |                        |
| Three Minute Thesis (3MT) presentation score                                                                              |   |   |   |                        |
| Research grant proposal score                                                                                             |   |   |   |                        |
| <b>TOTAL POINTS AWARDED</b><br><b>(37 pts. Maximum)</b>                                                                   |   |   |   |                        |



The overall assessment of students' thesis will be based on the Table below (which may be changed if there will be improvements).

| <b>THESIS EVALUATION</b>                                                                                         |  |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| <b>LABORATORY PERFORMANCE (55% OF THE FINAL GRADE)</b>                                                           |  |  |
| 1. Cooperation with the supervisor:                                                                              |  |  |
| 2. Cooperation with the members of the lab:                                                                      |  |  |
| 3. Grade in the oral presentations of papers:                                                                    |  |  |
| 4. Contribution in the lab meetings, asked questions, innovative thinking                                        |  |  |
| 5. Participation in the activities of the laboratory:                                                            |  |  |
| 6. Technical laboratory performance, independence:                                                               |  |  |
| 7. Theoretical background:                                                                                       |  |  |
| <b>THESIS PRESENTATION (20% OF THE FINAL GRADE-THIS WILL DERIVE FROM THE TABLE ABOVE)</b>                        |  |  |
| <b>THESIS WRITING (20% OF THE FINAL GRADE- THIS EVALUATION REFERS TO THE 1ST ESSAY DELIVERED BY THE STUDENT)</b> |  |  |
| 1. Accurate and explicit expression                                                                              |  |  |
| 2. Concise writing                                                                                               |  |  |
| 3. Absence of overstatements                                                                                     |  |  |
| 4. Current literature citation                                                                                   |  |  |
| 5. Comprehensive introduction                                                                                    |  |  |
| 6. Clarity of presentation of methods                                                                            |  |  |
| 7. Clarity of presentation of the results                                                                        |  |  |
| 8. Justification of the experiments                                                                              |  |  |
| 9. Discussion of the results                                                                                     |  |  |
| 10. Statement of future directions                                                                               |  |  |
| 11. Reference to limitations of the work                                                                         |  |  |
| 12. Quality of the Lay Abstract                                                                                  |  |  |
| <b>GRANT WRITING (5% OF THE FINAL GRADE- THIS EVALUATION REFERS TO THE 1ST ESSAY DELIVERED BY THE STUDENT)</b>   |  |  |
| 1. Accurate and explicit expression                                                                              |  |  |
| 2. Concise writing                                                                                               |  |  |
| 3. Absence of overstatements                                                                                     |  |  |
| 4. Current literature citation                                                                                   |  |  |
| 5. Comprehensive introduction                                                                                    |  |  |
| 6. Clarity of presentation of experimental design                                                                |  |  |
| 7. Justification of the proposed experiments                                                                     |  |  |

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|                                                                   |  |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| 8. Statement on the significance of the proposed research         |  |  |
| 9. Reference to limitations of the work                           |  |  |
| <b>ATTENDANCE OF THE THESIS OF ANOTHER STUDENT-<br/>QUESTIONS</b> |  |  |
| <b>EVALUATION OF THE THESIS OF ANOTHER STUDENT</b>                |  |  |