

Master Theses Supervision at the Strategic Management Subject Area

Thank you for your interest in writing your Master thesis with us.

In deciding whether you may want to pursue this idea further, we ask you to consult the comprehensive information published on our WWW sites pertaining to Master theses: <https://strategy.univie.ac.at/information-for-students/master-theses-supervision/>

In addition, please take a look at the FAQs below to help you decide whether you want to approach us for supervision.

FAQs:

Q: Does my grade average have to be below 1.5 in order for me to be considered for supervision?

A: If you have successfully passed all classes of the KFK Strategic Management (including the Master seminar and final oral exam) or the Strategic Management Major, you will be preferentially considered for Master thesis supervision. We will conduct a preliminary interview with you prior to deciding whether we accept you for supervision or not. Please note that this decision remains with the Strategy Subject Area.

If you have neither done the KFK Strategic Management or the Major, but have taken classes with us as part of your Management Competencies Module, we may consider supervising you if your grade average with us lies below 1.5.

Q: How do you allocate subjects to interested candidates? Do you apply a “first-come-first-serve” rule?

A: We try to match interested Master thesis candidates to the topics they feel excited about, and we keep an eye on the match between the candidates' qualifications and the required research skills to address the thesis subject at hand. Among equally interested and qualified candidates, we allocate topics on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Q: How much time does it realistically take to finish a Master thesis with the Strategy Subject Area?

A: We structure thesis projects so that they will require the equivalent of six months *fulltime work* from the candidate. A times, however, it will not be possible to finish the thesis within six actual calendar months as compulsory breaks may arise that cannot be influenced by us – particularly when carrying out (empirical) field work. We

therefore believe that candidates are well-advised to expect that their thesis may last for at least 9 calendar months from start to finish.

Q: How does the application process work?

A: First of all, you need to get in touch with our Subject Area. Once a student and their thesis topic have been accepted for supervision, you need to contact SSC (Studienservicecenter) to hand in two forms: "Anmeldung der Master-/Magisterarbeit, Thema und Betreuung" and "Regeln der guten wissenschaftlichen Praxis". Further information can be found here: <http://wiwi.univie.ac.at/service/>

Q: Can students suggest topics for their own Master thesis?

A: We may consider this in exceptional cases when candidates have a chosen track record of pursuing independent research already during their studies (1) and when the topic falls into our domain of interest (2). From experience we know that these are EXCEPTIONAL CASES. In almost all other instances, students will benefit from working on one of the topics suggested by ourselves and published on our WWW sites.

Q: Do you supervise Master theses that are carried out in co-operation with corporate partners?

A: We do so in selected instances when mutual interests in the project on the part of both our Subject Area and the corporate partner are clearly visible, and when the topic lends itself to becoming the subject of a scientific Master thesis that satisfies the regulations set forth by the University of Vienna. The ultimate decision as to whether we accept the thesis topic for supervision or not remains with the Strategy Subject Area.

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