

## **MASTER'S DEGREE IN ADVANCED ENGLISH STUDIES REGULATIONS FOR THE MASTER'S FINAL THESIS (TFM)**

### ***Introduction***

For their Master's dissertation, students will carry out, under the guidance of a supervisor, a project, report or original piece of research on a topic thematically related to advanced English studies; therefore, it should be developed along the lines of study/research outlined in this programme. The topic should be chosen and agreed on by the student and the supervisor. While writing the Master's dissertation, students are expected to develop the knowledge, abilities and skills acquired in this Master's degree. The content of the dissertation should be original and suit the specialisation area chosen by the student. This project will allow students to combine theoretical knowledge and practical applications. The dissertation may involve the application of current linguistic, literary, cultural and communication theories to a corpus compiled for analysis within the field of English Studies.

### ***Formal criteria***

- A4 format (except those which may require a different format)
- Length: between 15,000 and 20,000 words
- Font: Times New Roman 12
- Double spacing and 2.5 cms. margins
- The projects will be written in British or American English and consistent throughout
- Students should avoid sexist language and use a style which promotes equality between men and women
- Teaching load: 12 ECTS equivalent to c. 300 hours of workload
- Students must use the templates for the cover page and statement of academic integrity available in the virtual classroom

### ***Learning outcomes***

Students will be able to:

- Apply scientific research methods
- Identify contexts for quantitative and qualitative linguistic, literary and cultural research
- Understand how the research aim determines the organisation of a research project
- Relate and critically assess previous literature
- Select research methods and frameworks that best adapt to the research aim and the texts to be analysed
- Relate results with previous studies, highlighting original contributions to the field
- Draw conclusions from their research
- Be able to write a text in academic English following the research project genre, which follows the appropriate conventions of content and style, using non-discriminatory Language

## **Assessment**

A panel of experts assesses the Master's thesis during a public viva exam: 100% of the final grade.

\* Please note that having another person or company write an assignment for you, which includes using artificial intelligence tools like ChatGPT, is considered plagiarism by the MAES Board and, thus, a violation of academic integrity. It will automatically lead to a failing grade, and MAES instructors reserve the right to conduct an investigation and reassess students suspected of having resorted to plagiarism in their work.

## **Procedural matters**

### *1. Submission of the thesis*

- The procedure for submitting your thesis (by uploading it to *Entreu*) includes two steps:

- A) Deposit the document, in electronic format, through the electronic site ENTREU, along with the official form duly filled in with the authorisation signed by the tutor. The link to ENTREU and the deadlines for the two calls are available on the School of Philology, Translation and Media Studies website:

<https://www.uv.es/uvweb/filologia-traduccion-comunicacion/es/estudios-postgrado/masters-oficiales/trabajo-fin-master/procedimiento-1285964623685.html>

- B) Send a .pdf copy of the final version to [info.maes@uv.es](mailto:info.maes@uv.es) along with the deposit form to [info.maes@uv.es](mailto:info.maes@uv.es)

### *2. Deadlines*

There are two calls (July and September). The above link is updated by our School with each academic year's deadlines.

### *3. Examining Board and procedural issues*

- The tutor will fill in, sign and email the form with the proposal of the examining Board (three members and one alternate) to [info.maes@uv.es](mailto:info.maes@uv.es)
- The MAES Board will examine the proposal and, if appropriate, will approve it
- The examining board members must have a doctorate and teaching experience in the MAES. However, for duly justified reasons, they may be professors from the English section of the Department of English and German (UV) without prior teaching experience in the MAES programme
- The tutors cannot be members of the examining boards of the theses they have supervised
- MAES is not a hybrid or online degree, so viva exams must be face-to-face. However, circumstances may make it advisable, in exceptional and duly justified cases, to grant a waiver and hold hybrid defences (with a member of the examining Board connected online) or 100% online. To request this waiver, the tutor will send the student's written application with the tutor's approval to [info.maes@uv.es](mailto:info.maes@uv.es)

- Once the tutor is notified of the approval of the proposed examining Board, and before the viva exam, the tutor will send a report on the thesis in the appropriate form to the MAES Board and the examining board members. Once the viva exam has been concluded, the tutor's report will be attached to the thesis' public defence minutes
- The tutor will ensure that a copy of the paper is sent to the members of the examining Board in advance, so they have time to read it before the viva session. The exceptional online modality authorisation will also be sent to the board members
- The publicity of the viva exam shall be guaranteed through publication, with the date, time, and place, on the English Department's bulletin board. When the online defence has been authorised, a URL shall be added so that any interested party may access it.

#### 4. *Viva exam*

This oral examination allows candidates to defend their theses, and it assists the examining board members in deciding whether or not a student has met the requirements for the MA in Advanced English Studies. They will have read the thesis in advance. Still, the viva session allows the examiners to discuss the thesis in detail, ask questions, provide comments for improvement, and satisfy themselves that the thesis is the student's work. The examining board members have discretion to make it as long or as short as necessary to assess the thesis appropriately.

#### 5. *Grade*

The examining Board will award a grade on a scale of 0 to 10. The assessment criteria will include the student's performance during the viva exam and will consider the different sections of the tutor's report: I. Introduction, context, and research objectives. II. Literature review/theoretical framework. III. Research design and methodology. IV. Results, analysis and evaluation of findings. V. Conclusions. VI. Presentation, structure and writing. VII. Tutor's assessment ("comments"). The examining board may also nominate a candidate for the 'Honours distinction,' on the basis of the thesis' merits and the student's performance during the viva session.

The examining Board will fill out a report for each thesis. This form is also available for downloading from the virtual classroom and must be printed on both sides in a single-sheet document. It may also be picked up at the Secretary's Office.

Once the viva session is over, the President of the examining Board will send the report to [info.maes@uv.es](mailto:info.maes@uv.es)

Applicable regulations:

REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE MASTER'S THESES AND THE AWARDING OF EXTRAORDINARY AWARDS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF VALENCIA (Acord 199/2017, de 25 de juliol de 2017, del Consell de Govern de la Universitat de València)

[https://www.uv.es/pop/docs-M/NORMATIVA/Reglament\\_estudis\\_postgrau.pdf](https://www.uv.es/pop/docs-M/NORMATIVA/Reglament_estudis_postgrau.pdf)