



Master in FASHION STUDIES

LM 65 FASHION STUDIES -SCIENZE DELLA MODA

GUIDELINES FOR FINAL THESIS

WHAT IS THE FINAL THESIS?

The final thesis is the culmination of graduate work. It is an academic written text entirely edited by the candidate with the support of a major advisor/supervisor and an adjunct advisor that will be finally discussed in front of a Committee of professors within the LM 65 Fashion Studies Faculty Members (final exam).

The purpose of a thesis is the documentation of a student's scholarly activity in a formal structure that lends a relatively uniform appearance to work completed at Sapienza, Università di Roma, in spite of the discipline.

It is aimed both at showing the understanding of the students related to a specific subject matter and at familiarizing students with professional/academic writing. More importantly, the master's thesis provides the opportunity for students to acquire first-hand experience in research methods under competent direction.



CRITERIA FOR SELECTING THE TOPIC

The first aspect of a thesis is the choice of a topic. As for how to choose your topic we invite you to look into:

- personal interests on specific/focused themes;
- topics discussed in class and/or in the readings you had to prepare for a class, meetings with professionals and experts;
- internship experiences
- directly proposed by faculty members

For orienting yourself in the process of choosing a topic keep in mind some essential criteria such as:

- specific/focused topic;
- relevance (for the academic world, for the professional world, for the market, for the general society etc.)
- originality. Try to find a topic that is not overrated, or at least try to identify a specific perspective, propose an original research or project world that is innovative.
- coherence with your study plan and academic experience
- feasibility. While deciding for a topic evaluate all the aspects, time, money, and more in general other types of resources necessary for undertaking a specific thesis project (i.e.: having access to an archive; travelling to a place; knowing a language etc.)



THE SUPERVISOR AND THE CO-SUPERVISOR

Once that you come up with a general idea for your final thesis, think of a faculty member that could better supervise and guide you through the realization of your project. Together with your major supervisor (relatore) you have to agree upon the theme, the best ways to carry out your research/project and the specific deadlines.

The supervisor is meant to support you in the definition of the topic, coming up with a meaningful title for your thesis and guiding you to the completion of your work.

When you will book the thesis you have also to add the name of a faculty member as your co-supervisor (correlatore). You may decide who involve as co-supervisor, talking with your supervisor and finding a faculty member who is competent in the thesis topic and can help you in finalize your project.

TYPES OF THESIS

The final thesis has to be an original work in which students show their knowledge, understanding and skills on a specific topic.

There are three possible formats that you can follow for your final thesis: theoretical, research based, project/creative work. This typology doesn't have to be considered as a formal rigid one but just as an indication for you to follow, in fact any thesis could easily be a mix of these three formats, and you can combine different elements.

The type and structure of the thesis will be decided together with the major supervisor. It will contain an introduction in which you explain your work, the body of your thesis made of a different number of chapters, your conclusions (optional) and a bibliography in which you have to list, in alphabetical order, all the authors and sources you used for completing your work.



Theoretical Thesis

It is a theoretical investigation of a particular topic. For this type of thesis, it is particularly important to have access to articles of scientific journals and magazines dealing with your theme, books and other types of publication. A significant amount of time is given to the bibliographical references research to be carried out not only on-line but also at libraries and archives. You will have to re-elaborate what you have learned reading the scientific literature in a coherent and original way, selecting what is more appropriate for supporting your thesis.

The width of bibliographical research and the proof of its understanding it is a key element in this type of thesis.

Research Based Thesis

It is similar to the theoretical thesis with the distinctive element of the research. In fact, your thesis must be focused on your empirical/pragmatic research for your specific theme. You have to design the necessary research tool(s) for investigating a certain aspect, you have to conduct the research and to comment in a meaningful way the findings of your research.

In this type of thesis, a strong emphasis will be in the methodology applied for conducting the research, and on the interpretation of the findings.

Project/Creative Work

The project/creative work is a more pragmatic type of work in which bibliographical references are still important, but the key aspect of the thesis is showing the abilities and skills of the candidate in realizing, designing and presenting an actual project/creative work.



For this type of work creativity and originality are very important but also attention to the market/customers/clients will be evaluated.

FINAL DISCUSSION

For every academic year there are specific dates in which discussions of final thesis take place (usually those periods are in March, July, September and January). After you completed your work (remember that you must upload your thesis on infostud 2 weeks before the graduation day) you will develop a short presentation of 10 minutes in which you have to synthesize your work: your objectives, the methodology you used for reaching your results and some conclusions. If necessary by developing a ppt/prezi presentation, printing flyers, portfolio or any other materials in any support that you consider necessary for better explaining yourself and your project.

During the graduation day each student will present the thesis and discuss about the topic with both the supervisor and co-supervisor: your major supervisor or your adjunct supervisors or some members of the committee could ask you some specifications or clarifications still specifically related to your work.

EVLUATION OF THE FINAL THESIS

After the discussion, faculty members will grade your work – and how you presented it in front of the committee – **with maximum 5 (five) points.**

In order to calculate your starting grade you have to consider your average grade (resulting from the sum of the marks you got for each exam divided for the number of passed exam). The starting grade for the thesis will be: *(average grade x 110)/30*

Please note that

- **Graduating on time will give you 1(one) point.**



- **Additionally, also having among your exams' grades at least 3 (three) Trenta e Lode (30 e Lode) will give you 1 (one) extra point.**



STYLE

Your thesis is a piece of text and should therefore meet some requirements that make a text legible and look good. Secondly it is a scientific paper, so it must be compliant to the rules of scientific writing. We invite you to attain to the following rules.

Structure:

The formal structure of the thesis is divided is: title (and subtitle if available); table of contents (and list of figures and list of tables if available); introduction; main chapters (number and length depending on the type of thesis); conclusions; appendix (if available); bibliography.

Chapters will be subsequently divided in paragraphs with their own title and either subparagraphs when necessary.

Font, Size and Formatting:

The choice of the font is up to you: it has to be consistent in the whole work (Times New Roman, Garamond, Arial and Verdana are the most used fonts). Consider the importance of legibility and the fact that is a formal academic text. The suggested size font is 12 pt.

The paper size for a thesis is A 4. The thesis text should be formatted as one page single side print. Good margins are a key to good readability and finding them by just trying is harder than you might think. Left and right margin are basically equal but on the left there is 1 cm added for the binding. Suggested option 2.5 cm right and



3.5 cm left.

Line spacing should be either single line or 1.5.

Citations:

All citations should include a reference in the body of the text to the author as well as an entry in the bibliography/reference list. As for how to make notes and bibliography we make reference to the APA style available at <http://www.apastyle.org>

ON PLAGIARISM

Use of the intellectual property of others without attributing it to them is considered a serious academic offense. Cheating or plagiarism will result in a rejection of your final thesis and you will not be allowed to discuss it. In fact, while we emphasize the relevance of using many and alternative sources for your research it is absolutely important that you make references to any source (not only academic ones) that you quote directly and indirectly.

PROOFREADING

Students have to proofread their work before submitting it. Proofreading is the process of reviewing the final draft of a piece of writing to ensure consistency and accuracy in grammar, spelling, punctuation, and formatting.



PROCEDURE AND SCHEDULE FOR FINAL THESIS APPLICATION

Your application for the final thesis will have to be formally submitted through infostud. More information available (in Italian) at the following website <https://www.uniroma1.it/it/node/27863>.

Final Session Schedule academic year 2020-2021

Procedures	I Session	II Session	III Session	IV Session
When to book the thesis	From 01/12/2020 to 29/01/2021	From 29/03/2021 to 14/05/2021	From 21/06/2021 to 23/07/2021	From 01/09/2021 to 29/10/2021
Last exam due by	20/02/2021	18/06/2021	10/09/2021	19/11/2021
Graduation day	From 22/03/2021 to 27/03/2021	From 12/07/2021 to 24/07/2021	From 20/09/2021 to 25/09/2021	From 17/01/2022 to 22/01/2022

In order to discuss your final thesis in the exam session dates (line IV) you need to respect the deadlines of the application period (line II) and you have to pass your last exam one month before the graduation (line III)

A full guideline (in Italian) dedicated to the online procedure for submitting your final thesis exam request is also available at the following link: https://www.uniroma1.it/sites/default/files/field_file_allegati/istruzioni_domanda_dilauraonline_0.pdf

**MEMORANDUM FOR APPLICANTS:****PREREQUISITES**

At the moment of the application students should have done all exams with the exception of a maximum of 12 CFU. Students that are missing more than 12 CFU (remember that all the exams you did have to be “verbalizzati” and registered in infostud) cannot apply for the final session.

The 12 CFU (“idoneità” included) have to be registered (“verbalizzati”) mandatorily by the date indicated in line III (see the scheduling table).

MANDATORY INFORMATION TO INCLUDE IN THE APPLICATION FOR THE FINAL THESIS:

- Relatore (Supervisor)
- Materia della tesi (Subject of the thesis –Name of the course)
- Titolo tesi (Title of the dissertation)
- Correlatore (Co-supervisor)

LIST OF DOCUMENTS TO INCLUDE IN THE APPLICATION

DOCUMENT	MANDATORY	OPTIONAL	NOTES
Valid ID document	√		If not already uploaded to infostud
Tessera sanitaria or Codice Fiscale	√		If not already uploaded to infostud
Receipt of Alma Laurea Questionnaire	√		The receipt must be signed



Upload of the pdf of the thesis	√		
Dichiarazione “esami sostenuti”	√		If there are exams not yet uploaded to infostud
Percorso Formativo	√		
Modulo convalida esami riconosciuti o sostenuti all'estero	√		If those exams are not yet uploaded to infostud
Attestazione stage, tirocini, abilità informatiche e attività formative	√		If those activities are not yet uploaded to infostud
Diploma di maturità		√	

Instructions for uploading the pdf document of the final thesis are available at the following link:
https://www.uniroma1.it/sites/default/files/field_file_allegati/istruzioni_domanda_dilauraonline_0.pdf.